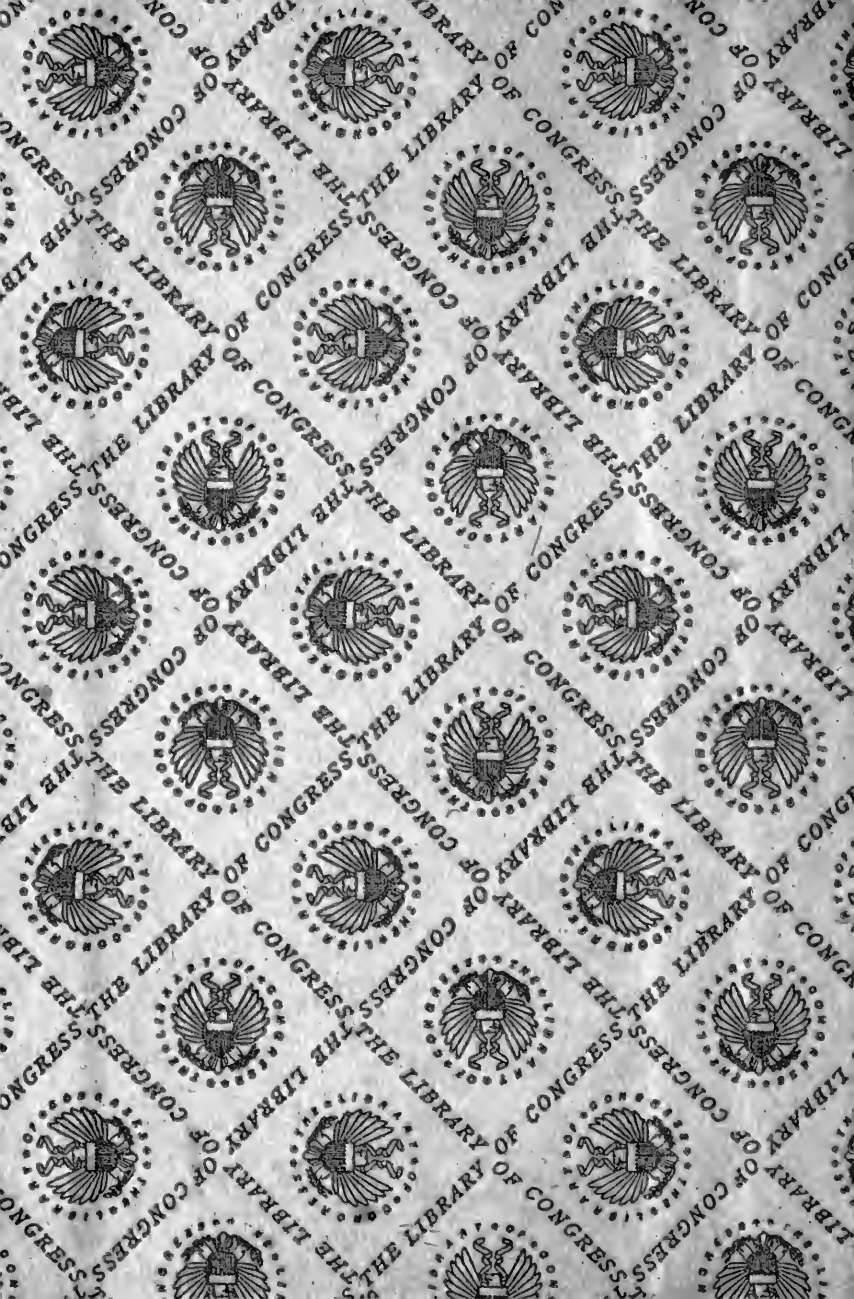


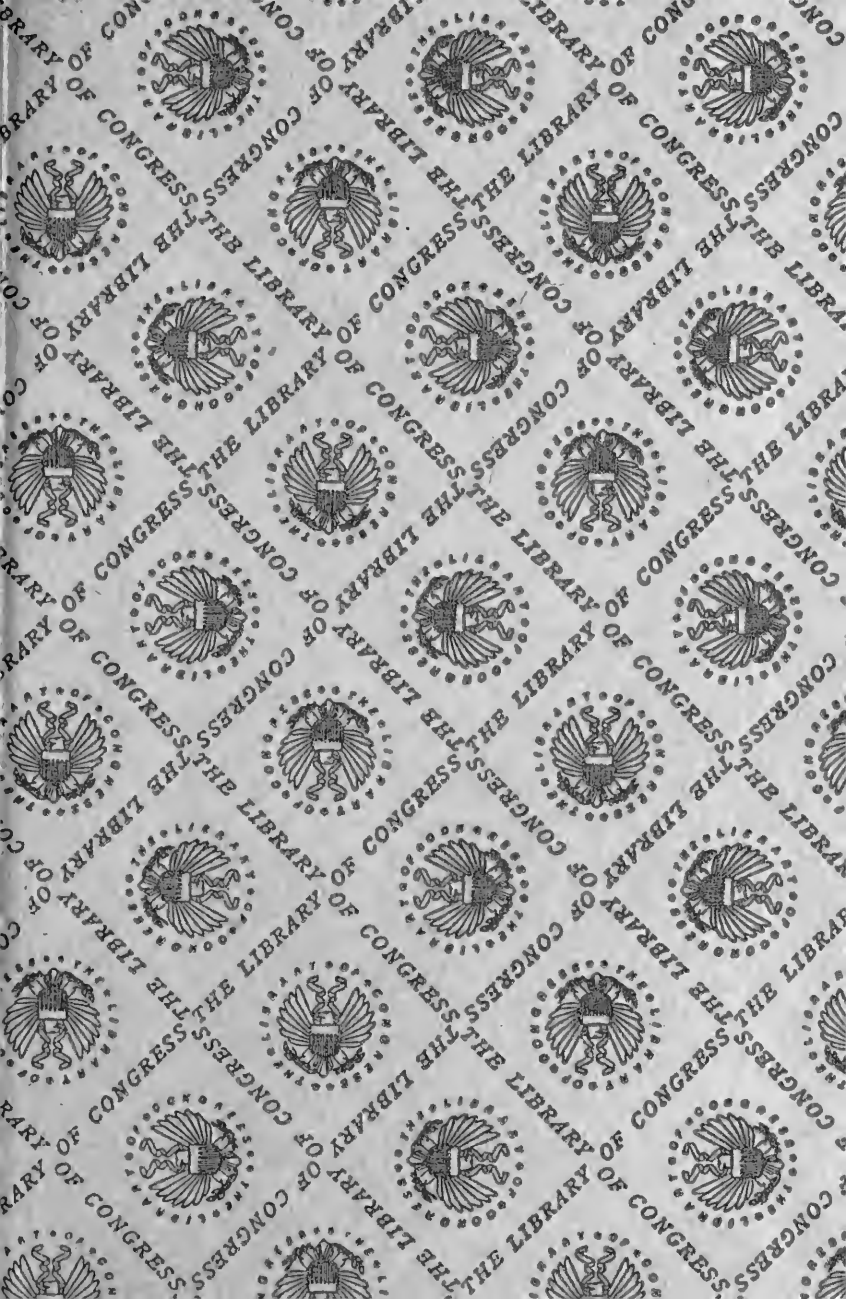
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THE
HISTORY AND DIRECTORY
OF
Walsall,
CONTAINING ITS
ANTIQUITIES,
AND A
MODERN SURVEY OF ITS IMPROVEMENTS,
A DESCRIPTION OF ITS
PUBLIC EDIFICES,
AND AN
*Enumeration of its local and commercial
Advantages,*
WITH
FORMS OF APPOINTMENT,
AND OTHER HIGHLY INTERESTING MISCELLANEOUS
ARTICLES,
TO WHICH IS ADDED
A CORRECT ACCOUNT
OF THE
TRIAL

Between the Borough and Foreign, &c. &c.

BY THOS. PEARCE.

BIRMINGHAM:

PRINTED BY THOMSON AND WRIGHTSON, NEW-STREET,
AND SOLD BY THEM, AND BY F. MILWARD, AND VALENTINE
AND THROSBY, WALSALL.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

It having been part of my duty to take the population of this town twice, agreeable to acts of parliament for that purpose, and finding that the number of inhabitants exceeded eleven thousand, I felt strongly inclined, as well as being much encouraged thereto by my friends, to publish a Directory of the names of the principal inhabitants of the parish, and also their various trades,—the utility of which must be obvious to the manufacturer, and to the commercial part of the community; the additional account of conveyances of all descriptions, and other matter contained in this publication, particularly as a book of record and reference, will, I trust, be found a useful source of information. It also occurred to me desirable to mingle pleasure with utility; or, in addition to information which could only be interesting to persons in trade, to give a short, but sufficiently explicit, account of the history of Walsall, of its public

buildings and charities, and of other things connected with the town or inhabitants: this had already been done by that learned and indefatigable historian of this county, the late Rev. S. Shaw, B. D. F. A. S.; but as his book is within the reach of very few, I have extracted from his history, that part which relates to this parish, making some trifling alterations, rendered necessary by the lapse of time, and adding such further information as I have been able to collect in the course of twenty-four years, spent in the discharge of the most public parochial duties. Influenced solely by a desire to consult the convenience and add to the pleasure of the numerous inhabitants of this parish, I commit my book to their candour and liberality; assured that they will be exercised, whenever the intention is good, however defective may be the execution.

THOMAS PEARCE,

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THE
HISTORY & ANTIQUITIES
OF THE PARISH OF
Walsall,
IN THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

WALSALL is an ancient market and incorporated town, situated on the South-east borders of the county, in the South division of Offlow hundred, and in the deanry of Tamworth; six miles East from Wolverhampton, nine miles South-west from Lichfield, and about eight from Birmingham.

Mr. Erdeswick says, Walshall water, being past Rushall, enters into Walshall; and, as he takes it, Robert held the same of William Fitz Anculf, 20th of the Conqueror*. From what source this information is derived I am at a loss to conjecture, as the above author always leaves us in the dark with respect to his authorities. I therefore rather imagine it to be a mere *ipse dixit*, there being no mention made of this place in Domesday-book, which seems a

* Erdeswick's Survey of Staffordshire, p. 147.

singular omission, when most of the inferior manors round it are amply noticed. But, it being called in divers charters a manor of antient demesne of the crown, it was, no doubt, at that time in the king's hands.

The next mention I find of it is in Henry II's reign, when that king, by his charter dated at Stanton, gave Walesdale, with all its appurtenances, to his servant Herbert Rufus, and his heirs, reserving to himself a rent of £4. per annum, for all services, &c.*

In Henry III's time, William Rufus held this manor in fee-farm of the king, paying £26. 19s. 9d.† He granted certain privileges to the burgesses of Walsall.‡ In the same place it is recorded that Roger de Morteyne and Thomas Rufus were lords, but no date mentioned. Huntbach says, sir Roger de Mortein, knt. had a power of free-warren here, 12 Edw. I. and was lord 23, of the same reign.

But I find it elsewhere recorded that the above William Rufus held only a moiety of this manor; for, in that excellent tenure-roll of the hundred, it is stated that Margery, daughter and heir of William Rufus, who held a moiety of the said manor of the

* Huntbach's MSS. No. 2, 26, penès me, and Cartular' de Walsall. p. 12.

† Erdeswick, ut sup.

‡ See charter of the corporation, &c. published by Smart, of Wolverhampton, 1774.

lord the king in fee-farm, was married to the son of Richard Alansun, by the bishop of Coventry; and that Geoffry de Bakepus and the son of Richard de Alansun held the manor of Walsall of the king in fee-farm by charter, at the annual rent of £4. to be paid into the exchequer. Also that they had a free court of old, with a fair and a market from the time of Henry III. but it was not known by what warrant. And they had the privilege of defending all suits, except that of forbidden distress. They took waifs, and had view of frank-pledge, for which they paid 7s. to the sheriff. Walsall then answered for one hide. And the said Geoffry de Bakepus had there a park beneath the forest, laid waste from the time of king John. And the said manor was worth £30. per annum.

The church of Walsall was in the gift of the lord the king; and the abbey of Hales then had it of the gift of king Henry III. and it was worth 40 marks per annum.*

Mr. Huntbach gives the following pedigree of William Rufus above mentioned, viz. that he married Isabel, daughter and co-heir of Gilbert de Arches, by whom he had issue Eintina, or Encina, married to Eustace de Mortein, and they had issue sir Roger de Mortein, who was joint lord of the manor with sir Thomas le Rous, knt. as appears in the following extracts from antient evidences.†

* Roll K. 10, Harl. Brit. Mus. See vol. I. Gen. Append. xvi.

† Ex Cartular de Walsall, in Brit. Mus.

In 32 Henry III. an agreement was made between Gefferey de Bakepuse and Eneisin his wife, on the one part, and Margery, daughter of sir William Ruffus and Isabel, formerly his wife, on the other (viz.) that they should by their attorney devise and grant to the said Geffory and Eneisin, and their heirs, all right and claim which they had in the whole park, and great fishery or pool, of Walsall. For which the said Geoffery and Eneisin grant them all their right in the manor of Caldecote, together with the alternate presentation of that church.

In the 5th of Edward I. it appears, by a French deed, that the said Roger Morteyn enfeofed Ralf Basset of Drayton, and his heirs, or John de Somery and his heirs, and his manor of Walsale, with the appurtenances for the sum of 300 livres.

Test. sir Hugh de Audeleye, sir Roger de Swey-
neston, Hugh de Bisshebury, &c.

Edward I. in the 7th year of his reign, grants a licence on Ralph Bassett passing a fine to John de Somery, to enfeof the said John to hold this moiety of the said manor of the king by the usual services.

Upon which the said John de Somery, lord of Duddeley, by his deed s. d. confirms to him and his heirs the said moiety of the manor of Walsale, to be held of the capital lord of the fee by the usual services.

Test. sir John de Heronville, sir Thomas le Rous, knts. John de Bentley, William de Freford, William Hillary, William de Bowles, Thomas de Darleston, &c.

33 Edward I. Thomas le Rouse, knt. lord of a purparty of Walshale, grants to sir Roger Morteyn, knt. and his heirs, a reasonable road to his wind-mill of Walshale, for a cart and horses at pleasure; for which the said Roger gave him his purparty of the fishery called Ladypole, with its appurtenances.

Test. sir John de Horonville, sir James de Eley, knts. Johe dno de Bentley, William de Bol, lord of Rushal, Rado de Pipa, &c. Dat. at Walshale, anno regni reg. E. fil. reg. H. III. 33°.

34 Edward I. Roger de Morteyn, lord of Walshale, knt. grants, &c. to Henry de Prestwood, and John his son, two mills in the fee of Walesdale; viz. his water-mill at Bertmescote, and his wind-mill at Walshale, for term of life, &c.

Test. sir William Trumwyne and John Heronville; knts. John de Bentleye, William Hillary, &c.

In the 6th of Edward II: John le Rous quit claims to Thomas le Rous all his right of Housboute and Haybote, in Walshale wood, belonging to his free tenement in Shelefiled, and all other services and rents, &c. in the whole demesne of Walsholma, belonging to the said Thomas Rous and his heirs.

Test. John de Heronvile, John de Benteley, William de Bowles, &c.

12 Edward II. Thomas le Rous, knt. lord of his purparty of Walshale, grants two crofts, one in the Wod ende, called Dedicroft, and the other in Calde-more, to Richard Paiguel his brother.

Test. John lord of Benteley, William Bowles, William Hillory, &c.

19 Edward II. Roger Hillory, rector of the church of Allerwich, makes an agreement with Thomas le Rous, knt. about his rent of 15s. 4d. for lands and tenements held of him beneath the manor of Walshale.

19 Edward II. Thomas le Rous, knt. grants to Robert Bonde three acres of his waste land in the Bircheles, on condition that he should not make any mines of lime-stone in the same.

3 Edward III. sir Roger de Morteyn, knt. lord of one moiety of the manor of Walshale, grants, &c. to sir Thomas le Rous, knt. lord of the other moiety, and to his heirs or assigns, a moiety of one of the fisheries in Walshale, towards the Grange of Calewenhull, and land of Stephen Petite of Walshale, for which the said Thomas gave him a certain tenement in Little Armyscote, and a road to his wind-mill.

By a French deed, 12 Edward III. Thomas le Rous, knt. confirms to Ralph Basset, lord of Drayton,

all his moiety of the manor of Walshale, with the appurtenances, which he had of the gift and feofment of sir Philip Burnel, together with all other lands and tenements, rents and services, of the free tenants and bondmen which he had in the said manor.

Test. sir Philip de Somervile, sir Robert Mauvey-syn, sir Richard de Stafford, William de Bowles, John de Benteley, Hugh de Aston, John de Blound, &c. Dated at Drayton Basset, ut supra.

13 Edward III. the king's pardon was granted to Ralph Basset of Drayton, for having obtained to himself and his heirs in fee, a moiety of the manor of Walshale, with the appurtenances of Alice L'Archer, without royal licence, which was held in capite.

Patent witnessed by Edward duke of Cornwall, and earl of Chester, the king's son, cust. Angl. apud Berkhamstead, 20th of March, 13 Edward.

In the 15th of the same reign this pardon was again confirmed by letters patent, on his paying a fine of 40s. Dated at West. 16 April.*

Afterwards sir Ralph Basset made an estate-tail of this manor, with divers remainders, as before-mentioned, under Drayton Basset,† the remainder to Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, (whose daughter was married to the son of the said sir Ralph.) All in the

* Chartulary in Brit. Mus.

† See p. 3.

remainder die; and the estate came to the said earl, who was lord thereof 19 Richard II. as appears by the following:*

“ Concerning the Grinding of Corne, by the Inhabitants of Walshale, at the Lord’s Mills, 19 Richard II.

“ Mind that Thomas earl of Warwick, lord of Walshale, the sixth of kyng Richard the Seconde, sends his servants and counselours, Thomas Knyght, parson of the church of Hanslape, surveiour of the londs of the sayd earle; John Hugford and William Spernors, squyeres, to his towne and lordship of Walshale, for the oversyght and good governance of the sayd towne and lordship. And there at that tyme on Jenkyn Cole, fermour of my sayd lordes mylle in Walshale, yeald the portmylle, complaynde to my sayd lordes consel, that the burgesses of the burgh of Walshale wolde not grynde at my sayd lordes mylne, as hit was there decrete; and how they caryde there corne to Ruysshale mylne, and to oder dyvers mylnes in the contre, and grond there corne and malte from my sayd lordes mylnes, to the gret prejudice and hurt to the sayd Jenkyn, sole fermour of my sayd lordes mylne, whereof he preyeth remedye; the whiche matyere and complaynt wel consayde and understondon by my sayd lordes consels, they sende for all the burgesses of the sayd burght of

* From the same Chartulary.

Walshale, to come before them, and answer to the complaynt above rehersed. Of the whiche matyere my sayd lordes consel examynede the sayd tenentes and burgesses, as well severally as generally; and there the sayd consel of my lord of Warrewyk fondon, by the othes of xii men of the sayd tenenantes and burges, and also by feyr evidence in wrytyng that was shewede, that the sayd burgeses of Walshale be at there fredom to grynde where they lyste and to carye there corne and malt, or do hit to be cariode to what mylne that hym best lyste that owneth the sayd corne or malt; and upon thys mattyere thus foundon, my sayd lordes consel cald before hem the sayd Jenkyn Cole, fermour of my sayd lordes mylnes, and bede hym, and conselode hym, that he shulde fryndon hym before wyth the burgeses of Walshale, and that he shulde gete hym a conyng mylner, and serve trewely my lordes tenantes; and in syche maner trefte hem, that he myghte have ther gode wylls; and by syche menes drawe to hym the gryst of the sayd town of Walshale; for they oughte not to compelle hem to grynde at my sayd lordes mylne in Walshale, for hit ys at hore owne fredam to grynde where they lyste."

Thomas Beauchamp, and his son Thomas, and grändson Richard, all earls of Warwick, and lords of Walsall, were buried in St. Mary's, Warwick. Henry duke of Warwick, son of the said Richard, was buried at Tewksbury.

In 1460 Nicholas Leveson, esq. had twenty pounds granted him by king Henry VI. out of the demesnes of Walsall, &c. for the losses he had sustained at Black heath and Blore heath, at the last of which places he was stripped and left for dead.*

This manor remained in the above family till Richard Nevil, earl of Salisbury, married Anne, sister and heir of Henry Beauchamp, duke of Warwick, in the time of Henry IV. who became lord of the manor of Walsall in right of his wife. This great man, who was called the Make King, was slain at the battle of Barnet, 1471, by king Edward IV. After which, his corpse being carried to London, with that of the marquis of Montague, his brother, and there exposed to public view in St. Paul's, was thence conveyed to Bisham, co. Berks, and interred in that monastery, with his ancestors the Montacures, by whom it had been founded.

Comines, being sent to Calais to the duke of Burgundy, to treat with Vaublanc, (the deputy-governor there to this great man,) reports, that he was so popular that every one wore his badge; no man esteeming himself gallant, whose head was not adorned with his ragged staff; in so much as Vaublanc himself wore a jewel in his hat, wherein was a black ragged staff, embroidered with gold.

Of his extraordinary hospitality we also find this observed, that at his house in London, Warwick lane,

* Huntbach MS. No. 2, p. 57.

were lodged 600 men, all in red jackets, embroidered with ragged staves before and behind; and six oxen were usually eaten at a breakfast, and every tavern full of his meat; for who that had any acquaintance in his family, should have as much sodden and roast as he might carry on a long dagger.*

The duke of Clarence, son-in-law of this great earl, was afterwards lord of this manor. He was buried at Tewkesbury. I do not find that the duke's son, Richard Plantagenet, ever had the manor, for he was a prisoner most of his life, and was murdered by Henry VII. The manor was restored to his grandmother, (Anne countess of Warwick,) above mentioned; and she by a special feofment, and fine thereupon, conveyed the same to Henry VII. and his issue male, with remainder to herself and heirs; in consequence of which king Henry VII. was lord. And the said king granted some lands; viz. two wastes, Cleyhonger and Bentley Lawnd, &c. not then, though now, deemed a part of the manor, to Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham; but the said duke was not lord of the whole, for Henry VIII. was lord, as heir to his father; and he in the 15th year of his reign, granted it in fee farm to Robert Acton and Mr. Gower, grooms of the king's chamber, during their natural lives, or the survivor of them, reserving £40. yearly rent. Acton purchased from Gower his share. Which Robert Acton, gent. by indenture of lease, December 14, 20 Henry VIII.

* Baron. vol. I. p. 306; and Stowe's Survey of London, edit. 1603, p. 89.

granted to Walter Devereux, lord Ferrers of Chartley, the parkship of Walsall, with all manner of herbage, paunage, pools, waters, fisheries, &c. for £11. 13s. 4d. a year.

Likewise, the said Robert Acton, and Thomas Acton, by their indenture, June 26, 31 Henry VIII. demised to George Have a water-mill and a horse-mill in Walsall, parcel of the manor of Walsall, which the said Robert Acton held to farm of the demise and grant of Henry VIII. for term of his life.*

Afterwards king Henry VIII. in the 32d year of his reign, granted the manor to John Dudley, duke of Northumberland; who held it till the reign of queen Mary, when, he being attainted of high treason and beheaded, it appears by his inquisition that he was seised of the manor and borough of Walsall, and of 200 acres of pasture, 100 of wood, with the appurtenances, called Walsall park, lying in Walsall. He was also seised of the rectory of Walsall, with the tithes, and other appurtenances, worth £10. *per annum*; and Bentley, and parcel of the manor of Walsall. Mr. Hutton, in his History of Birmingham, speaks of this last as a man of infamous principles and character. Besides his other possessions, he was lord of Warwick, Birmingham, Dudley, Wolverhampton, and Walsall; but his great estates and high station could not keep his neck from the axe. In Vincent's

* Old MS. in the possession of Mr. Curtis.

Heraldry, (p. 383,) is the following.—“ John Cocke, Lancaster Herald, (some time servant to this duke,) begged of queen Mary, to bury the head of his old master in the Tower of London; which was granted him with the whole body, and performed accordingly. In remembrance whereof, the said Lancaster did (ever after) bear for his crest, a bear's head silver, crowned gold.” I imagine this had some allusion to the badge for Warwick (and Walsall.) The solicitude of this Mr. Cocke for the remains of his old master shewed a gratitude not often practised to fallen grandeur. Walsall manor seems to have been an appendage to the earldom of Warwick, from the Beauchamps to the above John Dudley, and to have gone along with it as an appendage. This manor now came into the queen's hands, and she, in consideration of £1000. granted it to Richard Wildbraham, esq. of Woodhey in Cheshire. The said Richard afterwards purchased Acton's right in the same, and also satisfied Edward lord Stafford for his claim of some lands held by his grandfather, Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, above mentioned. Richard Wilbraham, grandson to the above named, was, by king James I. created a baronet; and the estate remained in this family till the death of sir Thomas, the last baronet: Arms, “arg. 3 bends wavy azure.” He left two daughters, one of whom, named Grace, married sir Lionel Tollemache, earl of Dysart (of Scotland,) and the other, named Mary, married sir Richard Newport, earl of Bradford, and she was lady of this manor. She had three daughters by her husband, who were co-heiresses, one married ——— Pult-

ney, esq.; the third, Anne, married, April 8, 1719, sir Orlando Bridgeman, bart. of Castle Bromwich, co. Warwick, father of the present lord Bradford, of Weston-under-Lizard, of whose family and place a full account will be hereafter given; the other, lady Diana, in 1721, married Algernoon Coote, 6th earl of Mountrath, and on dividing the estates this manor became the sole property of the said lady, who held it till her death, about 1767, and she was succeeded by her only son, Charles Henry, earl of Mountrath, the present lord of the manor of Walsall. He resides chiefly in Norfolk, and being unmarried, his heir apparent is Chidley Coote. Arms, "Argent, a chevron, between three cootes Sable." Crest, "on a wreath, Az. and Sa. a coote proper; supporters, two wolves proper gorged." Motto, "*Vincit veritas.*"

We do not find that any of the lords of this manor ever had a mansion, or resided in this parish, or were buried here.

The copyhold tenures in this manor are upon reasonable terms to the holders, not being burdened with fines or heriots, and paying only a few pence annually to the lord as acknowledgment; and, indeed, in some respects, are superior to freeholds, as a person who is a copyholder here may sell his estate without any restriction in regard of dower, or being at the heavy expences of suing for a fine at the courts of London.

From a rent roll of the lord's estate here, in 1744, it appears to have been then something more than £500. *per annum*. It is now above £1500. The parish (which is large) is distinguished by two names, that is, the town part, which is called the Borough, and the country part, called the Foreign; each of which maintain their own poor respectively; but the rates are much higher in the Borough than in the Foreign; in the latter is included the village of Bloxwich, where there is a chapel; and the hamlets of Little Bloxwich, Harping, Birchills, Town's End, Walsall wood, Windmill, Caldmore, Limepit Bank, &c.

In Walsall parish there are eight surveyors of the highways, two for the Borough, and six for the Foreign, i. e. two for Walsall-wood district, two for Bloxwich district, and two for the district of the Windmill.

MOSELEY's DOLE.

At this place there is a very odd custom of giving a penny loaf yearly, on Twelfth eve, to every person belonging to the town, and out-hamlets of the parish, that will come to fetch it. The origin of this can hardly now be discovered. Tradition says, that one Thomas Moseley, of this place, a long time ago, hearing a child cry for want of bread, on the eve of Epiphany, was resolved the like should never happen

there again, and that therefore he settled his manor of Bascote, com. Warwick, upon the town, to provide annually a penny loaf for every person within the liberties of Walsall, on Twelfth eve, for ever. The truth, says Dr. Plott, seems to be this:—one Thomas Moseley, by deed of feoffment, dated 30 Henry VI. settled his manor of Bascote for performing annually an obit for the soul of him and his wife Margaret, in the church of Walsall, and in the abbey of Hales Owen. No mention is here made of any dole to be given; but the remainder of the rents is absolutely given to the town. Whether the town gave, at first, this dole out of their part of the rents is uncertain; but the first time we meet with this custom is in 1539, when the bellman summoned the people to repair to the church to pray for the souls of Thomas Moseley and Margaret his wife. At this time a dole was given, and £7. 10s. 9d. discharged it. At the Reformation this was deemed a superstitious custom, and so the lands were seized by the Crown, where they lay till the 28th of queen Elizabeth; but the town rented them, and so continued the dole. She gave this manor to sir Jacob Crofts, controller of her household, who sold it to one Shaw and one Headcock, and they again to the Corporation, who possess it to this day. The whole rent of the manor in Plot's time was about £100. *per annum*, and the dole amounted to about two or three and twenty pounds.

Sir William Dugdale, in his History of Warwickshire, p. 347, says nothing of this dole, but gives a

different account of this Moseley's gift to the town of Walsall. He says, that one Thomas Moseley, of Moxhul, in the county of Warwick, being lord of Bascote, in that county, gave it in trust, A. D. 1452, to William Lyle and Thomas Magot for the use of the town of Walsall. Lyle being the surviving trustee, his son John claimed it as his own land, denying the trust. Hereupon, a suit being commenced by the town against him, in 1515, it was adjudged to Richard Hurst, and John Ford, for the use of the town, who soon after made a new feofment, and so it continues in the hands of trustees to this day.

From these two accounts we may, I think, conclude, that Hurst and Ford were the first beginners of this dole, though the reason of it does not appear; and that they gave it the name of Moseley's Dole, not because he was the founder of it, but because it was paid out of the profits of his lands. "In 1726, a commission for charitable uses being issued out of Chancery, for this county, among the rest, complaint was made against the corporation of Walsall about this dole; but it plainly appeared that the lands belonged to the corporation, and that the dole was only customary, which might be continued, or omitted, as they pleased."* However, an attempt being made to withhold it a few years ago, the populace, by their clamours and riotous disposition, forced the continuance of it.

* (Wilkes, MSS.) In the *Universal Magazine* for January, 1788, is an account of this singular custom.

The number of inhabitants we calculate at different periods from this dole, as follows:—in the 13th of Henry VII. about 1809; in 1686, according to Plot, not exceeding 5500; and in such proportion has the population been progressively increasing, that by the same standard it appears, that the number of inhabitants in the whole parish (including those of Rushall, which is not very populous) now amounts to 14,000, about 9000 of whom are supposed to live in the town of Walsall.

When hearth-money was collected, about 1660, Walsall borough paid for 375 hearths, £37. 10s. 0d. Walsall Foreign for 192 hearths, £19. 4s. 0d.

There is a sort of boundary between the Borough and Foreign in regard to the great tithes; but that is not a rule respecting the poor's rates, for those inhabitants of the borough who hold lands in the Foreign, pay for such lands to the poor's rates of the Borough. There are several hamlets near the town, and some close adjoining it, that are reckoned part of the Foreign, and pay to the poor's rates thereof.

There are four friendly societies in this town, whose members amount in the whole to about 900 men and 300 women.

The Borough and Foreign have the same lord of the manor, vicar, and mayor. The mayor for the time being, with the senior alderman, and late mayor, are in the commission of the peace, and hold sessions.

four times in the year, to try petty larceny and the like; by which privilege such matters are decided here, instead of being at the expence and trouble of attending the county court; and the inhabitants are exempt from serving on juries at Stafford.

The Guildhall is rather a modern building, in the High-street, the court room of which is a recess with steps leading to the entrance, over which is a niche intended to contain a statue of king Charles I. but has never been filled yet. One wing is the front of the Dragon inn, and the other is a large room, where the Corporation meet, and is called the Mayor's Parlour. Under this is the town prison, which is bad enough, but it is not often inhabited. The antient wooden staffs belonging to the mayor and corporation, still deposited in the hall, are curious relics of antiquity, being decorated with heads of various animals, &c. rudely carved.

The seal of the Corporation is not the same as the town arms, (i. e. the bear and ragged staff,) but I was lately undeceived by seeing an impression from it. It represents three fleurs de lis, and three lions quarterly, with two lions as supporters, and over the arms a crown without an arch. Over the rim of the crown are five fleurs de lis, and no crosses (as customary when the crown of England is represented.) The seal is nearly the size of a crown-piece; the inscription round it is in Latin, and in very antient characters, as represented in the large plate, meaning, "The seal of the mayor and commonalty of the Borough and

Foreign of Walsall." This seal must have been the arms of some of our monarchs from Henry V. to Elizabeth, inclusive. Kings Edward III. Richard II. and Henry IV. all quartered the fleurs de lis semée; and James I. quartered the Scotch lion; and as there is no date to the seal, I conjecture it is not more than 380 nor less than 190 years old. It is kept by the town-clerk, who is also steward for this monor to lord Mountrath.

The sheriff of the county, by his deputy, holds a court in this town, at the Castle Inn, every third Monday, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings; but the expences are very great both to plaintiff and defendant; and if the creditor loses the cause, he not only has the loss of his debt, but perhaps six or seven pounds to pay besides.

An error prevails in most printed accounts of Walsall respecting the fairs, which are three in the year; viz. February 24, Whitsun Tuesday, and the Tuesday before St. Michael. This last is sometimes erroneously set down October 10. The fair at Whitsuntide is not held by charter; but may be deemed a market-day in that holiday time, and a fair by prescription.

In this town is a charity-school, which consists of 24 boys and 16 girls, all cloathed in blue. They are taught and cloathed gratis; but not lodged or boarded. The expence attending this school, and paying the master and mistress, is defrayed by subscriptions,

donations, and sermons preached on the Wake Sunday. The present school room is in the Market Cross, which was erected about 100 years since, at the upper end of the High-street; but is intended to be taken down, to widen the passage, and open the view to the church. This street is spacious and tolerably well built; Park-street is also very wide; but has many low houses.

Being tinged with the smoke of a manufacturing vicinity, this town has been often looked upon with ignominy and contempt; but surely without just reason, if we may judge from its present improved appearance. And, though it has hitherto been very imperfectly described, and little noticed, it surely deserves to be better known; for its lords, as we have before shewn, have been some of the most eminent men in the kingdom, and its situation is peculiarly striking, on a bold eminence, from the summit of which rises its fine old Gothic church and lofty spire, the streets and houses gradually descending on every side.

Queen Elizabeth, it is said, once honoured this town with a visit, and slept in a house in Ablewell-street, where the Red Lion now stands; but of this we have no authority but tradition.

Of remarkable persons, either born, educated, or resident in this parish, we have obtained the following particulars. The celebrated statesman, John lord Somers, who died April 26, 1716, is said, in the

European Magazine,* from a MS. in the possession of Dr. Birch, to have had his grammar learning here; but, according to Mr. Winnington's account, his education was under Mr. Woodhouse, who kept a private academy at Sheriff-Hales.

We have before mentioned, that bishop Hought had the early part of his education at the same free-school here, which was founded by queen Mary. The present master is the rev. T. Blackham.

“ Near Walsall, captain Henry Stone, a merchant of Plymouth, hath his seat, being given him by an uncle, of his own surname, upon condition to reside on it. As I have heard this present possessor was a busy man in sequestrations, decimations, and in the first war against the king, having, as it is believed, gained a great estate by it; he hath ever since been justice of peace, and in 1656 attempted to have been a knight for the county, but was put back with disgrace.”†

The above house appears to have been what is now known by the sign of the Wheat Sheaff, in the populous hamlet called the Windmill. In addition to common report, and other evidence of this being the residence of that active officer in Cromwell's army,

* Vol. XXIII. p. 4.

† See Vol. I. p. 277.

‡ Degge's Additions to Erdeswick, p. 81.

it is now identified by the initials of his and his wife's name in a large brick in front of it, thus,

S.

H. S.

1662.

After the Restoration, however, he distinguished himself by acts of charity and benevolence, as may be seen by some of his benefactions to the poor, in the list hereafter printed. He also built a large gallery at the West end of this church, for the accommodation of those parishioners who had not seats of their own; and he left money to keep it in constant repair. He was likewise a benefactor to the poor of Cannock, as appears by the tables of that church. Mr. Stone's children dying before himself, he left three granddaughters under the guardianship of — Hanbury, of Norton, esq. and, in consequence of a suit in Chancery against their guardian, they sold their interest in the estate to a Mr. Stubbs for £300. each; in whose family it remained till lately, when it was sold in lots, to different purchasers; but, there being some defect in the titles, I understand the affair is now in Chancery.

“There is in Walsall likewise the seat of John Wollaston, gent. and of his father before him; and at Calmore near by, the seat of one Haw or Hall. George Haw died the 9th of March, 1660, seised of lands in Walsall and Shelfield, which George, his son, then seventeen years old, well improved, and left

them to his son. I presume this George Haw may be one of the sons of Lawrence Haw, a citizen and fish-monger of London, whose tomb is in Foster church, in Farringdon ward. Arms,

“Sa. a chevron between three leopards heads, erased Ar.”*

There was formerly an antient mansion close to the town called Reynolds hall, to which was a handsome avenue, or coach-road, from the lower end of Rushall-street.

Sir Simon Degge says, at Reynolds hall is the seat of John Persehouse, whose father was a practitioner in the law, or his grandfather, and lived in good repute. His son adhered to the king, Charles I. in the late war, and was forced to a composition with the Parliament, at the rate of £119. by the name of John Piershouse, of Reynolds haw, or hall, Walsall. The said John was prebendary and vicar of Weston, Pen, and Rosse. The family had this seat in marriage with one of the daughters and coheirs of — Walker, of Reynolds hall, whose ancestor married the daughter and heir of Reynolds, in whose name and family it had for some time continued.

Walker's arms, to which the family of the Persehouses had claim, were; Argent, a chevron, Sable, charged with two bezants, Or, a crescent of the first, between three crescents of the second.

* Degg's Additions to Erdeswick, p. 91.

A pedigree of the Persehouse family contains the following :

John Persehouse, of Reynolds hall, the lawyer, had issue Richard, who, by Frances, daughter of Humphry Wyrley, esq. had issue John (living in the reign of Charles II.) a very loyal person to king Charles I. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Chester, esq. and had issue John, aged seven in 1663. Him I take to have been the father or elder brother of Humphry, who bought Lynne hall. It seems clear that some of the family lived at this place; for, the register mentions the interment of Granada Persehouse, of Lynne, June 22, 1655.

William, son of Humphry, had issue William, of Reynolds hall, in the commission of the peace, who died in March, 1734, leaving Richard, and two daughters, by — his wife, daughter of — Parker, gent. He had a second wife, —, daughter of — Townshend, but find no issue by her.

One of the daughters married to John Douglas, D. D. then chaplain in ordinary to the king, canon of Windsor, and now bishop of Salisbury; the other to the rev. Mr. Burgess, of Herefordshire.

Richard Persehouse, esq. the last of the family who resided here, was left a minor. In 1762, he was one of the three persons pricked down for sheriff for the county of Stafford, but was not nominated or confirmed by the king. He became heir to — Parker, of Bloxwich, gent. his mother's brother. He married

two wives, both daughters of — Ryley, of Worcester; one of them, named Rachael, married December 18, 1754; by the first he had several children, who all died infants, but none by the latter. He, himself, had a tender constitution, and a thin habit of body, which was attacked by a fever, that carried him off in December 1771, being not more than forty years old. By will he provided for his widow, but left the chief part of his estates at Reynolds hall, Walsall, in Rushall, with a moiety of the tithes of the last parish, in Lynne, &c. to his godson John Walhouse, second son of Moreton Walhouse, esq. of Hatherton on Cannoc, by Frances, sister of sir Edward Lyttelton, of Pillaton, baronet.*

The hall, gardens, and avenue, are now no more, having been all destroyed to get at the lime-stone rocks under them, and not a remnant of the buildings to be seen, except some of the offices, which are likely to share the same fate.

To descend to more modern and trivial sketches in biography, the following anecdotes relating to two natives of this town may perhaps be acceptable. Mr. Siddons, (whose Christian name I believe is William,) the husband of the celebrated tragic performer, was born in Rushall-street, in this town. His father kept a public house, known by the sign of the London Apprentice, and met with his death by accident, in sparring or wrestling with one Denston. The present Mr.

* Sanders' History of Shenstone, p. 238. 9.

Siddons, as I am informed, was bred a barber. He seems to have had a turn for the stage early in life; for, about thirty years since, he and some others of his acquaintance performed a play in the malt-house of Mr. Samuel Wood, on the Lime-pit bank, in this town, for the amusement of themselves and friends. He afterwards joined the itinerant company of Mr. Kemble, and in time married one of his daughters; and now, through the abilities of his wife, and the favours of the public, he has become independent in his circumstances, and has not performed on the stage many years.

The other person whom I shall treat of is one who was very conspicuous at Sadler's Wells in the summer of 1796, and known to a London audience by the name of Askins, the ventriloquist. His real name is Thomas Haskey, and he is now about thirty years of age. His father was a chape filer, and was also named Thomas. He had used to ring the treble bell, and has since been dead some years; but his mother (who was sister to Joseph Lea, who kept the sign of the Valiant Trooper, at Arden, an hamlet one mile from Walsall) has not been long dead; and has left three daughters in low circumstances. The present Thomas was apprentice at Bloxwich, at the trade of bridle-bit making, and ran away from his master in the American war. He went into the king's service, and lost a leg; and he has a pension. The surprizing faculty he is possessed of, I believe, he knew nothing of when he was a boy; but I imagine he made him-

self master of it by imitating O'Burn, the celebrated Irish ventriloquist, who died in January, 1796. After Haskey's discharge from the service he was a good deal at Walsall; but more at Lichfield, where, if I am rightly informed, he had used to assist the gardeners by making holes with his wooden leg to set potatoes in the ground. He has had little or no education; but he always kept himself very clean and decent in his dress; and, when Mr. Stanton's company of performers were at Walsall, he frequently from the gallery set the house on a roar by sham dialogues, in two voices, between himself and *Tommy*. He was frequently sent for by lord Dudley to Himley, to exercise his talents for the amusement of his lordship and company; and he had the pride always to hire a post-chaise, to take him there from Walsall. How he was introduced on the London stage I cannot say; but he was the means of drawing a deal of company to Sadler's Wells in the season of 1796, when he cleared 200l, for his benefit. His capacity not allowing him to invent extempore dialogues with sufficient variety and taste, they are composed for him, and he learns them as players learn their parts.

The staple manufacture of Walsall may be said to be shoe-buckles and chapes, in which a great number of hands are employed, and some good fortunes have been made. Also the town and neighbourhood, particularly Bloxwich, is famous for the manufacture of sadlers' ironmongery, such as bridle-bits, stirrups,

spurs, &c. These are sold to the sadlers' ironmongers at Walsall, and form the basis of a considerable traffic, carried on to great advantage, and by them circulated to every part of the kingdom. The manufacture of nails is likewise very considerable in the Foreign of Walsall; a great number of women and children, as well as men, are employed in making the finer and lighter sorts, which they do equally well. These manufactures suffered a great depression in the American war: but were extremely flourishing during the peace, from the conclusion of that war to the commencement of the present; since which they have suffered more or less by the war; the trades of nails and sadlers' ironmongery are pretty good; buckles and locks indifferent.

The decline, however, of the buckle trade, which formerly was the chief support of this town, is owing to different causes besides the war; viz. the great price now paid for copper, brass, and tin; the long-prevailing fashion of wearing shoe-strings, and the present custom of the army not wearing buckles. In consequence of this, business being bad, many of the workmen have been, and are now, in distressed circumstances, and some of them obliged to learn new trades.

Notwithstanding these depressions, the spirit of loyalty which has of late so much diffused itself through the kingdom in armed associations, in defence of their property, has been very conspicuous here; an excellent corps of yeoman cavalry being established

under command of their spirited and generous captain, Joseph Scott, of Great Barr, esq. and another of infantry, of which ——— Jesson, esq. is the principal officer.

Plot says the water of the well at the house belonging to the mayor is alluminated.

In the road to Wolverhampton, about a mile from this town, is now a strong chalybeate water, called Alum Well.

THE CHURCH,

A vicarage dedicated to St. Matthew, or All Saints, and valued at £10 19s. 7d. in the king's books.

It was granted to the monastery of Hales Owen by sir William Ruffus, about 1250, as appears by the following account.

King Henry III. after confirming his father's grant and foundation charter of this monastery of Hales Owen, *anno*: 1248, conferred on the same the patronage of the church of Walshall, with its chapels: but notwithstanding this grant, it should seem that this advowson was first given to Hales monastery by sir William Ruffus, knight; for a deed, sans date, (1220,) occurs in the Monasticon, whereby Ruffus grants to the abbot and convent of Hales the church of Walshall, *cum capellis, ad hospitalitatem ejusdem domus supportandam*, witnessed by Peter, bishop of Winton, Wil-

liam, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, &c.* which latter died long before the date of king Henry's grant, and the former some years. I conjecture, therefore, that the Crown had some claim to this advowson, which induced the abbot of Hales to procure a fresh grant from the king.† Being thus possessed of the advowson, they obtained licence from the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry to appropriate the tithes to their house; and by the same instrument the vicarage of Walshall was instituted, consisting of a yearly stipend of thirteen marks, together with all the small tithes and obventions arising within the chapelries of Weddesbury and Rushall. In the 21st of Edward I. a *quowarranto* was brought against the abbot of Hales at the suit of the Crown, for this advowson of Walshall and Weddesbury: to this the abbot pleaded king Henry III's grant, which was allowed as to Walshall, but not to Weddesbury, which latter was said to be a mother-church, and not a chapel dependent on Walshall. On this issue was joined, and a trial had *per pais*, wherein the jury found "*quod predicta capella de Weddesbury fuit matrix ecclesia, ante donacionem quam Henr. rex fecit abbati de Hales et successoribus, et antequam predicta ecclesia de Weddesbury fuisset matrix ecclesia, et non capella pertinens ad ecclesiam de Walshall. Ideo consideratum est quod dñs rex recusaret seisinam suam de advocatione predicte capelle de Weddesbury et abbas in miseri-*

* Dugd. Monast. tom. II. p. 655.

† Nash's Appendix, No XIV.

cordia.”* But, notwithstanding this verdict against the abbot, he and his successors enjoyed the right of presenting to Weddesbury as well as Walshall, without interruption, till the Dissolution; and, the same year that this suit was brought, the king accepted a fine of ten marks from the abbot for the advowson of Weddesbury. “Et admittatur (says the second) finis iste per petitionem retornatam de parlamento regis apud Lincoln.”† Whence, perhaps, may be concluded, that the crown parted with its right in the advowson for this sum of money.

In the 39th of Edward III. a royal licence was granted to John de Beverle, and William Coleson of Walshall, to found a chantry, called Beverley chantry, in the church of Walshall, and to appropriate lands and tenements to the value of five marks *per annum*, with the appurtenances, in Walshall and Rushall, not held in capite, to find a chaplain to say mass daily at the altar of St. John Baptist, in the said church.

And, by an inquisition taken at Walshall before Philip de Lutteleye, escheator to the king, July 30, the same year, it appears that the said lands consisted of four messuages, one carucate of land, twenty acres of meadow, and six acres of pasture; and that the said messuages and carucate were held of Ralph Basset, by knight's service, &c. and were worth, *per*

* Nash's Appendix, No. XV.

† Inter Recorda de anno 21 Edward I. from the late Mr. Mytton's collection.

annum, thirty shillings clear. The said twenty acres of meadow, and six acres of pasture, were held of William de Walshall by service of fifteen pence rent *per annum*.

And by an inquisition taken at Lichfield, before Adamar de Lichfield, the king's escheator, 20th day after the feast of the exaltation of the Holy Cross, 19 Richard II. it appears, that Thomas Aston, knt. senior, had licence granted to appropriate two messuages, one toft, eight acres of land, one of meadow, and five of pasture, and two shillings rents of Richard de Alrewich, with divers others two shillings rents, &c. amounting to 21 shillings; and a moiety of three messuages, three acres of meadow, and one of pasture, in Walshall, Rushall, Caldemore, Gorscote, and Alderwick, held of the earl of Warwick by unknown services, to found a chantry in the said church; and for Robert Mareshall, then chaplain, and his successors, to celebrate mass therein for the fraternity of the gild of St. John the Baptist, for ever, in part of the satisfaction of ten mercats of land and annual rents, held of the king, &c.

This was confirmed by the king's royal licence, dated at Westminster, November 4, 20 Richard II. and the value of it is therein expressed to be five marks.

Richard II. also granted a licence, dated at Westminster, October 13, in the 15th year of his reign, to Roger Hillary, knt. to found another chantry, and to appropriate two messuages, thirty-six acres of land,

ten acres of meadow, and two shillings rent, with the appurtenances in Walshall, Shelfield, and Rushall, for a chaplain to celebrate daily mass, &c. at the altar of the blessed Mary, in the church of All Saints, Walshall, for the health of the said Roger while living, and for his soul after death, and for the souls of his ancestors, and all the faithful deceased.*

The king likewise grants a licence, in the 26th of his reign, to Thomas Mollesley and Henry Flaxale, to found another chantry for two chaplains to celebrate daily mass at the altar of St. John the Baptist, in the parish church of St. Mary of Walshall, in the county of Stafford, for the good estate of the king, and his beloved consort the queen of England, and William Marchion, earl of Suffolk, and Isabel his wife, whilst living, and for their souls after death; and for the souls of Henry, late duke of Warwick, and their predecessors and successors; also for the brethren and sisters of the gild of St. John the Baptist in Walshale, and for the souls of all the faithful departed. Dated at Westminster, April 26.

By another inquisition, taken at Stafford, before William de Walshale, the king's escheator in this county, the last day of October, 5th of Henry IV. it appears that Thomas Aston of Heywood, knight, had licence to appropriate to the same purpose 4 messuages, 18 acres of land, 4½ of meadow, 11 acres of pasture, one of wood, and one of moor, and 7s. rent,

* In origin' de anno xv^e regis Ric'i s'e'i, int' gross' fines, rotulo xlviii^o.

with the appurtenances in Walshale, Rushale, Allerwich, Barre, Ruggeley, Esynton, Bromley Regis, Fynchespade, Parva Stonhale, Norton super Cannock, and Aston Juxta Colfeld, in part of the 7 mercats of land, &c. before-mentioned. And that one messuage, 9 acres of land, 3 of pasture, $1\frac{1}{2}$ of meadow, and one of wood, with the appurtenances in Walshale, of the above, were held of the earl of Warwick in free burgage by service of paying to the said earl 6d. rent per annum, for all services, &c. And that the said earl held them of the king in capite as parcel of his manor of Walshale, and worth per annum 25 shillings. Also that one acre of pasture, and half an acre of meadow, with appurtenances in Rushale, were held of William de Rushale, as of his manor of Rushale, by service of paying him three pence halfpenny. And that the said William held that manor, with appurtenances, of William Walshale, by service of one-fourth part of a knight's fee; and that he held it ultimately of the king in capite by the same service. Which acre and half were worth per annum, 15 pence. Also that two acres of pasture in Allerwich and Barre were held of William de Birmyncham by service of seven pence halfpenny, and worth per annum 11d. clear. And that the said William held them ultimately of the king in capite by unknown services.

Item, that 1 messuage, 5 acres of land, $1\frac{1}{2}$ of meadow, 2 of pasture, and 1 of more, and 7s. rent, with appurtenances, in Aston and Little Stonal afore-said, where held of John le Strange by service of 7s. rent to him and his heirs, who held them of the king

in capite as parcel of his manor of Shenston, worth per annum 9s. clear.

Also, that 1 messuage and 3 acres of land, &c. in Ruggeley and Norton aforesaid, were held of the bishop of Chester by service of paying him and his successors 2s. 9d. per annum; which bishops held them of the king in capite as parcel of their manors of Ruggeley and Cannock, worth per annum 7s. 2d. clear.

Likewise that one acre of pasture in Essington was held of John Swynforton for 1½d. who held it of John de Sutton, lord of Dudley, who held it of the king in capite as parcel of his barony of Dudley, and worth per annum 23d. clear.

Also that one messuage, one acre of land, and one of pasture, in Fynchespade, with the appurtenances, were held of the prior of Sondewall, by service of 23d. and were worth per annum 3s. 5d. They also say that, over and above the aforesaid donation, the said Thomas Aston, and his heirs, were possessed of the manor of Little Heywode, with appurtenances, one messuage, six carucates of land in Over Longdon, which he held of the bishop of Chester by service of half a knight's fee, and worth per annum xls. clear.

This donation was afterwards confirmed by the king's letters patent, dated at Westminster, Feb. 7, the 5th of Henry IV. in which it is further expressed to be worth 48s. 8d. clear per annum.

Another confirmation by the same king is also dated at Tuttebury castle, Sept. 9, in the same year, and concludes, after a repetition of all the former, that licence was granted to the aforesaid Thomas de Aston, sen. and William Walshale, esq. Richard Baxter of Walshale, and Richard Brid of Walshale, guardians of the above-fraternity, that they should grant lands, tenements, and rents, &c. to the value of 10 marks per annum, to Henry Wynde, chaplain, and his successors, to celebrate mass in the church aforesaid for the good estate of the masters and guardians of the said fraternity for the time being, and for all and each of the brothers and sisters of the same whilst living, and for their souls after their departure from this life, as well as for those of the same fraternity lately slain at the battle of Salop, and all the faithful deceased for ever.*

“ When the duke of Northumberland was lord of Walsall, he received divers chief rents and services out of divers chantry lands within the manor, as parcel of the seigniori of Walsall, until the statute of 1 Edw. VI. made for the dissolving of chantries, by which statute the rents and services thereof are reserved to the lord; but, the tenure being extinct, he hath nothing but the chief rents. Queen Mary and queen Elizabeth afterwards granted to several persons all the said chantry lands.”†

* Chartulary of Walsall in Brit. Mus. ut sup.

† Mr. Curtis's old MS. ut sup.

Amongst the pensions paid in 1553 to incumbents of chantries, &c. the following are here recorded :—

Walsall, Aston's chantry. To William Ridway and Sampson Borne, incumbents, £6. each.

Hillary's chantry. To Richard Harte, £5. 13s. 4d. Thomas Borne, Richard Parker, and Richard Bradley, incumbents, £5. each.

Teuxall chantry. To Edward Hill, incumbent, £6.

Vernon's and Bernard's chantry. To Thomas Dobson, incumbent, £6.*

The patronage of this vicarage has been some time in the lords of the manor.

The following is the best list of vicars I have been able to obtain:—

William Ward signs the parish register as vicar in 1571.

Thomas Byrdall, M. A. whose name as minister of Walsall is on a table of benefactions set up in 1654, died in April, 1662. There are two books written by him; one called, "A Glimpse of God;" the other is a volume of eighteen sermons, preached in Walsall church. The first was printed in 1665, with a dedication to sir Thomas Wilbraham and the lady Elizabeth

* Willis's History of Abbeys, &c. vol. II. p. 221.

his wife, by a clergyman named W. Gearing. In this dedication it is mentioned that Mr. Byrdall was presented to this living by sir Thomas's grandfather, sir Richard. The volume of Sermons was printed in 1666, and dedicated as before mentioned; to this is prefixed a funeral Discourse, by Anthony Burgess, minister of Sutton Coldfield, in which the age of the deceased is supposed to be 55. I presume he was inducted before the troubles, and that, when the ordinance passed to abolish the Liturgy, he laid it aside, and took the covenant. Whether he re-assumed the Common-Prayer after May 1660, I cannot say; but his death happening four months before the act of Uniformity took place, prevented his being ejected for non-conformity, if he had then persisted in it. He was succeeded by

Richard Bourn, minister, 1662.

John Moss, vicar 1708, died 1733, and was buried in the North chancel. He was succeeded by

Robert Felton, who was vicar March 16, 1751—2, when the first brick in the new burial ground in Windmill-field was laid. He died 1769, æt. 64, and was buried near the vestry.

His successor, John Darwall, died 1789, and was interred in a vault in the new burying-ground. He was succeeded by

The late vicar, the rev. — Rutter, who, dying 1796, was succeeded by

The present vicar, the rev. P. Pratt.

Though there are no traces of Saxon architecture about this church, yet it is certainly a fabric of considerable antiquity, but much modernized in front by various repairs. The whole is a spacious and lofty building, rather singular in its appearance, being in the form of a cross, the transept of which is composed by large side chapels, whose roofs lie East and West, parallel to the body of the church. The tower, which is situated at the South-west angle of the West front, is strong, plain, and far from inelegant, being built with coarse lime-stone, on which a new spire was erected since the year 1775, when a set of eight good bells were put up by Mr. Rudhall, of Gloucester; the weight of the tenor being above 23 hundred, and the key-note E flat. The inscriptions round the bells are,

1. "When us you ring, we'll sweetly sing."
2. "Fear God, honour the king."
3. } "Prosperity to this parish."
4. }
5. "The rev. Mr. John Darwall, vicar."
6. "Thomas Rudhall, Gloucester, founder."
7. "Thomas Hector, Edward Licet, Thomas Overton, Deykin Hemming, church-wardens."
8. "I to the church the living call,
And to the grave do summon all."

Under the chancel is a remarkable arch-way of massy Gothic workmanship, which is only a common passage through the East part of the church-yard.

The internal dimensions of the church are as follow :—Length of the middle aisle 92 feet, breadth 22 feet 1 inch. South aisle, with the Maids' chapel, length the same as the nave, breadth 22 feet. St. Catharine's chapel 27 feet long, and 17 feet 2 inches in breadth. North aisle, same length as the body, breadth 20 feet 8 inches. St. Clement's chapel 34 feet 8 inches in length, and 17 feet 2 inches in breadth. Length of the chancel 52 feet and a half, breadth 19 feet. On each side of this chancel are eleven stalls, very entire; the seats of which, being lifted up, exhibit a series of grotesque figures, curiously carved in basso-relievo, no two of which are alike. Over the communion-table is a large painting, representing the Last Supper.

The arms of the Beauchamps, Hillarys, &c. formerly in the windows, are now no more. And the monuments belonging to the latter family, of which there are drawings in Dugdale's Visitation, in the Heralds' College, are either destroyed, or hid by modern pews. The following description of them is by Wirley, in his Church Notes 1597, and Dugdale in his MS.*

“ In this church, towards the South part, resteth a fayre and curious monument, with an alabaster figure of one of the Hilaries, leaning his head on one of his hands, as if he were half rising, with one of his legs rising, answerable; his shield on his left arm;

* C. 36, p. 32, in the College of Arms:

and upon his body wrought flower de lyces and cross-crosslets very exactly.

“ The figure of the portraitures in brasse, and epitaph upon a tomb of gray marble standing towards the North side of this church.

“ En terre sount retournes monsir Roger Hillary,
cheif justice del’

Comen Bank, & Katharine sa feme jadis nomez. .

Jesu de lour Almes eitz merci pitee se que pur
lour almies pater noster et Ave Maria dyra
sys vynts jours de pardon.”

Arms: 1. “ In a plain bordure three fleurs de liz
between six cross-crosslets fitchée.”

2. “ Two lions passant.”

Another thus inscribed:

“ Orate pro animabus Hugonis Hextale, et
Isabellæ uxoris ejus qui quidam Hugo obiit. . . .”

Arms. 1. “ Quarterly, 1 and 4 Gules, a bend
Arg; 2 and 3 Sable, a fleur de leuce Arg.”

2. The same, impaling “ Sable, a chevron engrailed,
between three owls Arg.”

On another:

“ Orate pro animabus W’mi Hextale, et
Margaretæ et Johannæ uxor’.”

Arms, the same as before, impaling “ Party per
pale and per chevron.”

Another thus :

“ Orate pro animabus Ricardi Petett, et
Margaretæ uxoris ejus, et Joh'nis Petett.”

Arms. “ A chevron between three bugle horns.”

The following arms were in the windows:

1. Quarterly 1 and 4 chequy Or and B, a chevron Arg.; 2 and 3 Gules, a fess between six cross-crosslets Or. (*Beauchamp.*)

2. *Beauchamp*, impaling Gu. seven mascles Or. (*Ferrers of Groby.*)

3. Arg. three fleur de liz between six cross crosslets Sable (*Hillary*), impaling Gu. fretty Or.

4. *Hillary*, with the bordure Gu.

5. The same, with a label of three points Gu.

6. Sa. a chevron engrailed between three owls A.

7. A. a chevron indented Sa. on a chief of the first three martlets of the 2d.

8. Quarterly, Or and Gu. a fleur de liz, Sa. in the first, on a bordure Sa. nine bezants.

9. Sable, a fess between three lozenges Arg. (*Aston.*)

10. Quarterly, 1st, B. a lion passant, over all a chevron Or. The other three broken.

Besides the coats before noticed, there are two still visible on the lower part of the pulpit, cut in stone, viz. 1. *Beauchamp*, impaling *Ferrers*. 2. *Hillary*. Also eight shields on the fine old alabaster font, which is of an octagonal form, and richly sculptured.

1. Stafford and Beauchamp quarterly.
2. A chevron between three owls. (This is like the arms of Prescot, and of sir C. Burton.)
3. Quarterly, 1 and 4, a chevron, a lion passant guardant, in chief three lozenges. (This last is like the arms of Blewit.)
4. Quarterly, ——— and ———, a fleur de lis in the first, all within a bordure.
5. . . . a fess engrailed, three martlets.
6. . . . impaling a chevron.
- 7 and 8, blank.

On a tablet against the North-west pillar of the middle aisle.

Near this pillar
lieth the body
of Thomas Nicholls,
late of Birmingham,
apothecary,
who departed this life
Sept. 17, 1711,
in the 48th year of his age.
He wished that all
who read this inscription
would, in time of health,
often think of death,
and prepare for it.

On the floor on the North aisle :

In memory of
John Grosvenor, esq.

who departed this life
the 4th day of October,
1732, aged 63.

Against the North-east corner of the church is a small marble, thus inscribed:

Near this place lieth the body of Judith, the wife of Francis Best, late of this town, gent. daughter of William Ferne, of Crackmarsh, in this county, esq. who, having lived peaceably and lovingly with her husband and neighbours twenty-two years and upwards, leaving behind her one daughter, departed this life the fourteenth day of January, 1686-7.

Bene mori est bene vivere.

Ora, et abi.

Against the opposite wall, going into the vestry, is another mural marble, thus:

Near this place lie the remains of Robert Felton, vicar of this parish near six and thirty years, born and educated at Newport in the county of Salop, from whence he went to Oxford, and was some time a commoner of Magdalene hall, where he took a bachelor's degree; from thence he retired into Shropshire, where he was sent for by the right honourable Mary countess of Bradford, who generously gave him this living, without his knowledge or application.

Ob. 29 April. MDCCLXIX. ætat 64.

In the window of St. Catherine's chapel is part of St. Catherine in painted glass, with her wheel.

In St. Clement's chapel are several niches, but without any figures.

In the same chapel is the following :

In memory of Tho. Pashley, late of this town, who died in the year 1741, aged 31.

Be pleased and thankful in what state thou art,
Act well and chearful thy allotted part,
Enjoy the present hour, be thankful for the past,
And neither fear nor wish the approaches of the last.

Here are spacious galleries, East, West, North, and South. In the East gallery is a good organ, built by Green of London, 1773. The old organ was purchased by Mr. George Hill, for £12 10s. who built a house to contain it, but sold it to the inhabitants of Stow-market, Suffolk, for their church, where it now stands, repaired and improved. The old church-yard, or cemetery, being much too small for the parish in 1756, a spacious piece of ground, neatly walled round, on the South side of the town, was consecrated for the interment of the dead, and seems already very amply furnished. At an agreeable distance beyond this stands the neat vicarage, "bosomed high in tufted trees." It has been lately enlarged; rough cast, &c. and, being finely shaded with trees, is a delightful rural feature in the land-

scape; which, when viewed from Warwick fields, North-west, or another eminence North-east of the town, few places can exhibit the like scenery.

An account of charitable gifts belonging to the Poor of the Borough and Foreign of Walsall, taken from the several Tables in the Church, set up in 1654.

John Wolverston, gent. by will, dated October 3, 1670, gave the rents of his house in Walsall, in the tenure of Edward Spink, to be yearly distributed to the poor of the borough of Walsall every Good Friday for ever.

Roger Hinton, of Rickerscoat, in the county of Stafford, gent. by will, dated February 5, 1684, gave to the poor of Walsall, £5 yearly out of his lands in Rickerscoat, to be distributed by the minister and churchwardens for ever.

The said Spink's house being 20s. per annum, which said sum is now charged on a house in the tenure of Andrew Rooker.

Humphrey Pershouse, gent. by will, dated February 11, 1697, gave to the poor of Walsall £5 yearly, for ever (viz) 40s. to the borough, and £3 to the foreign, to be paid to the poor inhabitants every Christmas-day, by the vicar and church-wardens.

William Syvern, by will, gave to the poor of Walsall £100; and several tenements in Birmingham are settled for the payment of £5 yearly for ever, to the poor aforesaid, which deed is in the custody of John Perkés, Richard Moseley, John Blackham, Thomas Roper, and Simon Bibb, trustees.

Robert Moseley, by will, gave to the poor of Walsall shillings yearly for ever, to be distributed by the vicar and churchwardens.

Mr. William Parker gave towards the maintenance of a minister at Bloxwich chapel, 20s. yearly for ever, which the merchant taylors pay.

He gave also to set the poor of Walsall parish on work, £200.

He gave also £50 to repair Bloxwich chapel, and 20£ to repair the chapel house, and £150 to repair the highways about Walsall, Rushall, Gorsgate, and Bloxwich.

Sir William Craven, knt. gave £50; Mr. John Parker £30; Mr. Robert Parker £20; to make new seats in Walsall Church.

Mr. John Parker gave to the poor of Walsall parish and other uses, to be paid out of the manor of Langthorne, in Yorkshire, £20 per annum to the uses following.

	£.	s.	d.
For four sermons to be yearly preached in Bloxwich chapel, 10s. a sermon.	2	0	0
For two sermons in Walsall church, 10s. a sermon	1	0	0
For two sermons in Rushall church, 10s. a sermon	1	0	0
For the repairs of Bloxwich chapel, yearly	1	6	8
To the poor of Great Bloxwich, Little Bloxwich, Harden, Gorsgate, and Cole- poole	4	17	10
To the poor of Shelfield, Rushall, Daw- End, Wood-End, Caldmore, Walsall town's- end, and other houses in lanes and places in the Foreign	4	17	9
To the poor of Walsall borough	4	17	9
Mr. Robert Parker gave	6	13	4
To the poor of Walsall borough }			
To Great Bloxwich	6	13	4
And to the rest of the hamlets in Wal- sall parish	6	13	4

This is paid by the merchant taylors of London; they have £400 in their hands to buy lands in Staffordshire, for the payment of it yearly, in December, for ever.

He gave £5 per annum to maintain one to play on the organ in Walsall church. The merchant taylors have £100 for the payment of this £5 per annum. Since the organs were demolished.

This £5 by a decree in Chancery, is to be paid in bread to the poor of Walsall Borough and Foreign; to wit, £1 13s. 4d. a year to the Borough, and £3 6s. 8d. to the Foreign.

Mr. Robert Parker gave a close at Bloxwich, called Lee Hay, to the intent that £4 of the rent thereof should be distributed every year quarterly, to the poor of Great Bloxwich; and to employ the overplus for the maintenance of a clock at Bloxwich chapel. Nicholas Parker is tenant to the close. The feofment whereby it was given is in the town-chest.

Mr. Nicholas Parker, by his will, gave 40s. yearly towards the repair of the parish church of Walsall, to ease the poor inhabitants of their levies, out of Peakers which Mr. Howe has upon that condition.

He gave also 20s. per annum to the poor of Great Bloxwich and Harden, 20s. to the poor of Rushall, and 40s. per annum towards the repair of the parish church of Walsall, which Nicholas Parker, his kinsman, is to pay out of his lands in Bloxwich, Rushall, and Aldridge, at Christide and Easter, at even portions.

Whereas Walsall was antiently a corporation by prescription, Mr. Nicholas Parker gave £100 to procure a charter for the better government of the town.

Mr. Henry Stone, by his will, gave £50 in money, to be lent to poor tradesmen for two years, to have £3, £4, or £5 a piece, but none above £5.

He gave £3 per annum to maintain a lecture in Walsall church, the first Tuesday in every month.

He gave £13. per annum to poor householders in Walsall Borough and Foreign, one half on Good Friday, and the other at Christide.

He gave £7. 10s. per annum to buy twelve coats for twelve poor men, and twelve gowns for twelve poor women, against Christide, yearly, for ever. This only for the poor of the borough.

He gave £5. 4s. per annum to distribute 24 penny loaves every Sabbath day in Walsall church, to the 24 poor people to whom he had given coats and gowns.

He gave £3. per annum towards the repairs of the parish church of Walsall and gallery, which he caused to be built at his own charge.

He gave 40s. per annum to be spent on a banquet at yearly meetings for his heirs and trustees and their heirs, who are to meet once a year to see his charitable uses performed; and, as one of the overseers die, the survivors are to chuse another in his place, that the whole number of overseers may be supplied for ever. His nephew, Henry Stone, esq. is to pay all

the said legacies out of lands which his uncle gave him.

Mr. Richard Stone, of Walsall, gave 20s. yearly out of a close in Bentley, called Park-Brook-Leasow, to buy two poor people coats against Christide. William Rock hath the lands upon that condition.

He gave 20s. yearly out of another close called Bentley Leasow, to buy two other coats for two other poor people against Christide, and 6s. yearly to be spent on the mayor and four of his brethren, when they should meet to see his legacies performed.

Mr. Richard Stone, of Caldmore, gave 6s. 8d. to be distributed in bread yearly to the poor of Walsall Borough, out of Palfry-Green-Leasow, which Henry Stone, esq. now hath, in the 11th year of Henry VIII.

John Harper, esq. founded an alms-house in Walsall for four poor people to dwell in, and gave towards the maintenance of the said poor people, two acres and a half of land in Windmill Field, and one croft lying in Caldmore.

Mr. George Hawe, 4 and 5 P. and M. gave a croft at Walsall town's-end to the use of the poor people dwelling in the said alms-house.

Mr. William Ridware gave a pasture in Essington, called Priests crofts, to feoffees, to pay the poor, impotent, and aged people of Great and Little Blox-

wich, 6s. 8d.; to the poor of the alms-house 2s. upon every Good Friday, yearly, forever; and 1s. 4d. to the poor of Essington.

Michael Shawe gave £2. yearly, to the poor of Walsall Borough, on Good Friday, to be paid out of a close which now Mr. Wollaston hath.

Mr. Thomas Webb gave £1. yearly to the poor of Walsall Borough, out of a close at Shelfield, which now John Ridding hath.

Mr. Thomas Gorway gave £2. to be yearly paid out of his lands in Rushall and Bromwich, now in Mr. Thomas Hawe's hands of Hatherton, to the poor of Walsall Borough and Foreign, on Good Friday.

Mr. John Curteys gave £1. 6s. 8d. out of two meadows called Swaggers Meadows, to the poor of Walsall Borough, viz. 13s. 4d. on Good Friday, and 13s. 4d. on Christide Eve, which Christopher Adamson and William Ebe now have.

John Dee gave to the poor of Walsall Borough out of a close at Wood End, £1. 2s. yearly, which close George Tuddman holdeth of the town.

Mr. John Bolton, and Alice his wife, by deed, dated the 1st of May, Jac. gave out of his lands in Walsall, 10s. yearly, to be distributed on Good Friday to thirty poor widows living in Walsall Borough. Mr. Pershouse hath these lands and must pay it, by

deed, dated August 8, 13 Car. remaining in the custody of Mr. Burnes of Lichfield; he hath undertaken the payment of it yearly.

Mr. John Hawe, by deed, gave Molefields to feoffees, the rent to be employed to buy, weekly, 28 loaves of white bread, to be distributed every Sabbath day in the church, viz. to the poor people 25 loaves, to the vicar two, and to the clerk one.

Mr. John Lyddatt gave £10. in money, to be lent gratis to poor people, at the discretion of the mayor, who hath the disposing of it.

Mr. William Wheat gave £20. in money to be lent gratis to ten poor men, viz. 40s. a-piece for three years, and the stock to continue for ever. Mr. Stone hath the disposing of this twenty pounds.

He gave also £20. to buy land, the rent whereof is to be given for the preaching of four sermons yearly in Walsall church. There is a close at Five Lanes Ends bought with it.

Mr. John Pershouse, by his will, gave yearly 20s. to the poor of the Borough, and 20s. to the poor of the Foreign, to be distributed on Good Friday and Christide by even portions. He gave also two little houses at the Stairhead for two poor people to dwell in rent-free for ever.

Mr. John Wollaston, by his will, appointed that his heirs should yearly, for ever, distribute the rent of

a house in the church-yard to the poor, viz. to four poor people in the alms-house, 2s. on Good Friday, and the residue of the rent to the poor of Walsall Borough at Christide.

He appointed that his heirs for ever should maintain and keep the little house in Hall-lane in repair, and to let some poor body dwell in it rent-free, for ever.

Cicily Haynes, widow, by her will, dated the 11th of November, 1648, gave 10s. a year out of a close at Wolverhampton, called Chapel Leasow, to be distributed yearly upon St. Andrew's day to thirty poor widows in Walsall Borough. This is to be paid by John Walton and his heirs after the decease of her brother Thomas Hawe.

Samuel Murrey left 8s. per annum to be distributed to sixteen poor men of the Foreign of Walsall at Christmas. The vicar trustee.

Gifts to the Charity School of Walsall.

Mr. John Whittingham, in his last will, hath this paragraph, viz. I give the reversion of £200. after my wife's decease, to Whittingham and Philadelphia Smith; and after their decease to the charity school of Walsall for ever. This sum is reposed in the hands of the trustees, viz. the magistrates of this corporation.

Mr. John Harrison, by will, gave £5. for the use abovesaid.

John Barber, bucklemaker, by his last will, gave £10. to the boys' and £10. to the girls' charity-school.

Mr. John Hawe, gent. by his last will, gave £10. to the boys' and £10. to the girls' charity-school.

BLOXWICH

is situate about two miles North-west from Walsall, to which it has a chapel of ease. In Domesday Book it is said the king held Blockeswic then a member of the manor of Wednesbury. There is a wood three furlongs in length, and one in breadth, and in Skelfeld one hide of waste appertaining to the said manor.* Erdeswic confounds it with Blechesworth, which Roger de Montgomery held 20 Conqueror.† In the Magna Britannia this place is confounded with West Bromwich.‡ Sir Simon Degge, in his Additions to Erdeswick, says, "Sir Gilbert Wakeringe, of Rickmandsworth, in the county of Hertford, who kept a great flutter in this county in the beginning of king James's time, died December 25, 15 James, seised of a capital messuage, and demesne, and three other messuages, and divers lands in the two Bloxwiches, &c. and of the manors of Essingdon, and Womborne, in the county of Stafford, &c.

* See vol. 1. Gen. Appen. p. iii.

† Erdeswick's Survey, p. 145.

‡ Vol. V. p. 12.

“ All which he left to John Wakeringe, son of James Wakeringe, son of Edward Wakeringe, father of Gilbert, forty years of age.”*

“ Sir Gilbert Wakeringe’s arms, Ermine, on a chief Azure, three lions rampant, Or. This should be a city coat by the chief.”*

This place is now inhabited principally by manufacturers in the sadlers’ ironmongery, &c.

THE CHAPEL

is a small donative in the gift of the inhabitants. The present minister is the Rev. James Davenport, D. D. of Stratford-upon-Avon, whose income from it is about £40 a year. His curate is the Rev. William Brownell, of Walsail, who informs me, that in 1792 the number of Christenings were fifty-nine, burials fifty.

There was a brief for re-building this chapel, 1794, charge £1,207 15s. 0d. which new fabrick has been since finished; it therefore contains nothing worthy notice.

The following inscription is on a gravestone in the burying-ground here.

To the memory of Samuel Wilks, late of this parish, locksmith, who died the 6th of November,

* MS. penès me, et Inquisitiones post mortem.

1764. Reader! if thou art an inhabitant of Great Bloxwich, know, That the dust beneath thy feet (when overseer of the poor of this parish,) was imprisoned in thy cause, because he refused to surrender thy rights, and to submit to an arbitrary mandate, by which it was intended to incorporate the poors' rates of the Foreign with those of the Borough, and thereby to compel the Foreign to the payment of a greater proportion of parochial taxes than is warranted by law.—His resistance was attended with success.—The benefit is thine.

SHELFIELD,

Above noticed from Domesday, by the name of Scelfeld, was purchased by William Glascott, 22d December, 17 Charles, of sir William Skeffington, and Richard his son, in these words, “ All that manor or lordship of Shelfield, and Gregory Shelton's cottage, chief rents and services, &c. for £24. July 10th, in the 10th of the same reign, sir Richard Wilbraham bought it of sir William Glascott for £24.”*

BESCOT,

or, as it is called in old writings, Berkenscot, &c. is an ancient manor on the South-west side the parish, in the road to Wednesbury. It is recorded amongst the lands of the king in Domesday Book.

* Old MS. in possession of Mr. Curtis, ut supra.

In Bresmundscote is one carucate of land, which was waste.* The first possessors we find of it were the Hillarys, whose arms and monumental inscription have been lately noticed in Walsall church. In the 4th of Henry the Fourth, it was certified, that sir Roger Hillary, knt. died without issue, and that he held certain lands of the king by grand serjeantry; viz. to look after the Hay of Ashwood, amongst which, he held of the earl of Warwick this manor of Bescote, and lands in Bloxwich, &c. likewise the manor of Alrewich, of the heirs of Robert Stapleton, as will there more fully appear; and the manor of Fisherwick of the bishop of Chester, by a knight's fee, as before shewn,† &c. all which he held, together with his wife Margaret, to themselves and their heirs; but for want of issue male they were to go to sir John Saer de Rochford, knt. and his heirs male. It is further stated that Margaret, the widow of this Roger, at his death, entered upon these lands; and that the said Roger died 1 Henry IV. s. p. and that the said John Saer, æt. 40, son of Joan, one of the sisters of the aforesaid Roger, and Elizabeth, wife of sir John Russel, knt. æt. 50, daughter of Elizabeth, his other sister, were his next heirs.‡

This manor afterwards belonged to the family of Mountfort. William Mountfort, knt. died the

* See vol. I. Gen. Append. p. iii.

† See vol. I. p. 365.

‡ Huntbach MSS. No. 2.

6th of December, 31 Henry VI. leaving sir Baldwin Montfort seised of this manor of Bescot. He died 14 Edward IV. leaving a son and heir, sir Simon Montfort, who was attainted 11 Henry VII. He left issue by Anne, daughter of Richard Verney, of Compton, knt. Thomas Mountfort, of Sutton Colfield, esq. 7 Henry VII. who, by Elizabeth, daughter of John Greseley, of Drakelow, in the county of Derby, esq. left Simon Mountfort, of Kingshurst, in the county of Warwick, esq. 22 Henry VIII. who, by Ann, daughter of sir Ralph Longford, knt. his first wife, had issue Francis Mountfort, esq. He died 1599, leaving by Ann his wife, daughter and co-heir of William Willington, esq. William Mountfort, of Kingshurst, married to Ann, daughter of Brian Fowler, of St. Thomas, near Stafford, whose son, sir Edward Mountfort, knt. died 1633, leaving by Elizabeth, daughter of Valentine Browne, knt. Simon Montfort, of Bescot, esq. whose son, Edward Montfort, esq. I suppose the last male heir of this ancient family, deceased in 1691, leaving a daughter and heir, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Harris, gent. as appears by an indenture 10th October, 1691, between them, on the one part, and Thomas Tyer, esq. Humfrey Persehouse, gent. Moreton Slaney, gent. and Jonas Slaney, gent. of the other part, purporting to be a deed for the uses of a fine of this Bescott hall estate. The above Thomas Harris dying possessed of this estate, &c. his widow carried it in marriage to Mr. Jonas Slaney, as appears by an indenture dated 20th January, 1717, between

the said Mr. Jonas Slaney and Elizabeth, his wife, widow and relict of the said Thomas Harris, deceased, and daughter and heir of Edward Mountfort, deceased, of the one part, and Thomas Poynts, gent, of the other, purporting to be a deed for the uses of a fine of this estate, then about 507 acres. The affairs of the late Rev. Jonas Slaney, of Bescott hall, (who was many years an active magistrate for this county, and vicar of Rushall, as there noticed,) being much embarrassed, in pursuance of a decree in Chancery, the trustees sold to Mr. Richard Wilkes Bescott hall, manor and estate, for £3200. He resided here about six years, and in 1794 sold the same to the late Richmond Aston, esq. for £4000. The motto which he had adopted; viz. *Effodiuntur e tellure opes* was very applicable to his circumstances, having obtained a large fortune from coal-mines at Tipton and that vicinity.

He purchased the tithes from Mr. Dolphin for £150. The site of the antient house of the Hillarys and Mountforts is what is now called the moat garden, a considerable space of ground, encompassed by a large square moat, over which is a bridge, finely shaded with trees, as represented in the annexed view, with the back part of the house, built by one of the Slaneys, whose arms were over the iron gates in front; thus, "Gules a bend between three martlets Or;" Crest, a semeè bird volant; the same as borne by another branch of this family, Moreton Aglionby Slaney, of Shiffnall, esq. and

his brother, the Rev. Richard Slaney, vicar of Penkridge, &c.

Mr. Aston began to make the present alterations of this house, a short time before his death, which have been since finished, according to his plan, by his widow, who resides here with her family; the iron gates, which stood close in front, are removed to the road, and the approach, grounds, &c. much improved, as represented in the lower part of the above plate.

To the North of the Moat garden are two old pools, called Over Pool, 3 acres, 1 rood, 31 perches, Great Pool, 3 acres, 2 roods, 30 perches.

Near this is Bescot Farm, purchased by Mr. Crow, from the Rev. Jonas Slaney; and Mrs. C. bought it in 1795, for about £500.

Mrs. Mary Slaney, second widow of Mr. Slaney, has a jointure of £200 per annum, called the White house and estate, on the opposite side of the road from Bescott hall.

Dr. Plot tells us, at the village of Bescott was found a sort of earth or mud, which being stirred up seemed to shine like fire. One Mr. Jones riding with Captain Thomas Lane, in the night-time, casually fell into a ditch in Bescott grounds; and Mr. Lane endeavouring to help him out, they stirred the mud and dirt pretty much, and therewith fouled their

gloves, bridles, and horses. Having recovered their horses, they observed, that upon all those things that the water and mud had touched there was a faint flame, like that of burnt brandy, which continued upon them for a mile's riding.*

The Doctor also speaks of the pool at Bescot being stocked with eels, though none had ever been put in for breed or otherwise.†

* Plot's Staffordshire, p. 116.

† Ibid. p. 242.

Having in the preceding pages extracted from Shaw's history of this county what relates to this parish, I shall proceed to give a copy of the Charter granted to the antient Corporation of this town, together with an account of the public edifices, copies of appointments of various public officers, and a great variety of other matter, in the arrangement of which, I must beg leave to request the indulgence of the reader for its defects.



THE
Charter
OF THE
CORPORATION
OF
WALSALL.

CHARLES II. by the Grace of GOD, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these our present Letters shall come Greeting.

WE have inspected the Inrollment of certain Letters Patent of our dear Father, CHARLES, late King of *England*, bearing Date at *Westminster* the 20th Day of *July* in the Third Year of his Reign, directed to the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall*, made and granted thus in the Patent Rolls of our Court of Chancery remaining of Record in these Words, (that is to say) The King to all whom, &c. Greeting.

WHEREAS the Borough or Village and Foreign of *Walsall* in our County of *Stafford* are of ancient Demesne of our Crown of *England*, and the said Village of *Walsall*, or the ancient Village of Merchants and Inhabitants of

the same, by the Name of the Mayor and Burgesses of the Village, &c. of *Walsall* in our County of *Stafford*, from Time whereof the Memory of Man is not to be contrary, have peaceably had and enjoyed divers Jurisdictions, Franchises, Liberties, Immunities, and Priviledges, as well by Prescription as by Reason of and Means of several Charters, granted, confirmed, and by Letters Patent of our Proprietors, or Predecessors Kings of *England* to them heretofore made. And whereas we are informed that certain Doubts and Questions have arisen, and may arise concerning certain Liberties of the Borough or Village and Foreign aforesaid, and thereupon our beloved Subjects, now Inhabitants of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, have humbly besought us, that we will give and extend to them our Munificence, royal Grace and Liberty, in that behalf: And that we, for the better Order and Government of the said Borough and Foreign, and the People of the same, and others there resorting to the said Inhabitants in one certain and undoubted Body Corporate, and Politic of new, to make, create, and restore, by which they may be known, We having graciously given Ear to the said Petition, and being willing that from henceforth for ever, there shall be and continue in the said Borough and Foreign, one certain and undoubted manner of and for the keeping of the Peace, good Order, and Government of the People there: And that the said Borough and Foreign be, and remain for ever hereafter, a Borough and Foreign of Peace and Quietness, to the dread and terror of Wicked Offenders, and a Reward to the Good, and that our Peace and other Matters relating to Justice there, without further delay be kept, hoping that if the said Inhabitants of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and their Successors shall by our more ample Grant enjoy

Liberties and Priviledges, they would assemble themselves more especially, readily, bravely, to pay the Service, which they shall be able to render to Us, our Heirs and Successors, being obliged thereto by our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere motion, WE HAVE WILLED, ORDAINED, GRANTED, AND CONSTITUTED, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors, DO WILL, ORDAIN, CONSTITUTE, GRANT, AND DECLARE, THAT the aforesaid Borough or Town of *Walsall* in the aforesaid County of *Stafford* shall be for ever hereafter a free Borough of itself, and that the Mayor and Burgesses of the Borough or Town of *Walsall* aforesaid, and also all and singular the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough or Town and Foreign of *Walsall* aforesaid, by whatsoever Name or Names they shall have heretofore been incorporate, or whether they have been heretofore incorporated or not, and their Successors for ever hereafter be and shall be, by Virtue of these Presents, one Body Corporate and Politic in Deed, Fact, and Name, by the Name of the Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall*, in the County of *Stafford*: And by these Presents We have raised, made, ordained, constituted, confirmed and declared, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, that, them, by the Name of the Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall* in the County of *Stafford*, be one Body Corporate and Politic, in Deed, Fact and Name, really and fully, and that they by the same Name have perpetual Succession: And that they, by the same Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall* in the County of *Stafford*, be and shall be, in perpetual Time to come, Persons fit and capable in Law to have, perceive, receive and possess, Lands, Tenements, Liberties, Priviledges, Jurisdictions, Franchises and Here-

ditaments, of what Nature, Kind or Quality soever, they shall be to them and their Successors in Fee and Perpetuity, and also Goods and Chattels, and whatsoever Things, of what Kind, Nature or Quality soever; they shall be also to give, grant, demise and assign, Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, Goods and Chattels, and also to do and execute all and singular other Matters and Things, to be done and executed, by the Name aforesaid: And that by the same Name of Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall* in the County of *Stafford*, shall and may plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in whatsoever Courts, Place or Places, and before whatsoever Judges and Justices or other Persons and Officers of Us, our Heirs and Successors, in all Suits, Plaints, Pleas, Causes, Matters and Demands, real, personal or mixt whatsoever, as well spiritual as temporal, of whatsoever Kind, Nature or Quality they be, in the same Manner and Form as our other Liege Subjects of our Kingdom of *England*, Persons fit and capable in Law, who shall and may plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, and have, obtain, receive, possess, give, grant and demise: And that the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and their Successors shall have for ever a Common Seal for trying, and transacting all Manner of Causes and Businesses whatsoever of their own and their Successors; and that it shall and may be lawful for the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough aforesaid and their Successors to break and change that Seal at their Will and Pleasure and, from Time to Time, to break, change and make anew, as to them shall seem fit to do or to be done. **AND WE FURTHER WILL** and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs

and Successors, do grant and ordain, that for ever hereafter there may and shall be within the said Borough, one of the Principal, more approved and discreet of the Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, in Form in these Presents undermentioned, who shall and may be named a Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid; and also there may and shall be within the said Borough and Foreign, twenty-four of the more approved and discreet Burgesses or Inhabitants of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, in Form also in Presents undermentioned to be elected, who shall and may be called the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, which said Capital Burgesses shall and may be called the Common Council of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and shall from Time to Time, be aiding and assisting the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, in all Actions, Causes and Matters, in any wise whatsoever touching or concerning the Borough and Foreign aforesaid. AND WE FURTHER WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall* aforesaid and their Successors, that the Mayor and twenty-four of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and their Successors for the Time, or the major Part of them, whereof the Mayor for the Time being to be one, WE being willing that they have and shall have full Power and Authority, in the Guild-Hall of the Borough aforesaid or other convenient Place within the said Borough, to assemble and meet, to make, constitute, ordain and establish, from Time to Time, such reasonable Laws, Statutes and Ordinances whatsoever, which to them shall seem good, wholesome, profitable, honest and necessary, as shall appear to them in their sound Judgments for

the good Order and Government of the Burgesses, Artificers and Inhabitants of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being; and in what Manner or Order the said Mayor and Capital Burgesses, and also all and every Burgesses and Artificers, Inhabitants and Resiants of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, in their Trades and Businesses within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and the Limits and Precincts thereof may have, bear and use, and further for the Public Good and common Utility and good Order of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and for supplying the said Borough and Foreign with Necessaries; And also for the better preserving, governing, disposing, letting and demising Lands, Tenements, Possessions, Reversions and Hereditaments, to the said Mayor and Commonalty and their Successors given, granted and assigned, and all other Matters and Things whatsoever to the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or the Estates Rights or Interests, touching or in any wise concerning the same, that the said Mayor and twenty-four of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, whereof the Mayor to be one, WE WILL that so often as any of the said Laws, Statutes and Ordinances, erected made, ordained or established in Form aforesaid, the like reasonable Pains, Penalties and Punishments, by imprisonment of the Body, or by Fines and Amerciments or either of them, upon all who offend against the said Laws, Statutes and Ordinances or any of them, or any other that shall or may be assessed or imposed, which to the said Mayor and Capital Burgesses for the Time being, or the major Part of them, shall seem to be reasonable and requisite as aforesaid; and also those Fines and Amerciments to be levied and had, shall and may be valid without

any impediments of Us, our Heirs and Successors; and all and singular the Laws, Statutes and Ordinances to be made, WE WILL, shall be observed, under the Penalties in the same contained, nevertheless so that the same Laws, Statutes and Ordinances, Imprisonments, Fines and Amerciments, be reasonable and not repugnant nor contrary to the Laws and Statutes accustomed, or to the Laws of our Kingdom of *England*. And for the better execution of our said Grant in this behalf, WE assign, nominate, constitute and make, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do assign, nominate, constitute and make our beloved *William Webb*, the present Mayor of the Borough aforesaid, to be the first and present Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid; WE WILLING that the said *William Webb* shall be and continue in the Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, from the making of these Presents until the Feast of *St. Michael the Archangel* next following, and from the said Feast until one other of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid shall be duly elected and sworn into the said Office, according to the Ordinances and Constitutions hereafter in these Presents declared: And also we have assigned, nominated, constituted and made, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do assign, nominate, constitute and make, our beloved *John Woollaston, Henry Stone, John Pershouse, Richard Adamson, William Pierson, Richard Stone, Thomas Gorwey, Thomas Ball, Humphrey Nickins, John Stone the elder, John Stone the younger, Thomas Hancock, Nicholas Sheppard, Nicholas Parker, John Cumberlage, Thomas Osborn, Thomas Burrowes, Humphry Willet, Thomas Hodgkinson, Christopher Adamson, Thomas Greve, Henry Sheppard, George Thacker and Richard Webb*,

Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, that they be the first and now Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to continue in that Office during their natural Lives, unless in the mean Time by bad Conduct or Behaviour in that behalf they shall be removed, or any of them shall be removed from that Office: And we further will, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and their Successors, that the Mayor and Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, whereof the Mayor for the Time being to be one, we will shall from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter have Power and Authority, and shall Yearly and every Year on the Day or Feast of *St. Michael the Archangel*, by themselves or the major Part of them, assembled in the Guild Hall, or in any other convenient Place within the Borough aforesaid, according to their Directions shall limit and assign and the same continue, until they or the major Part of them, then assembled as aforesaid, then and there shall nominate and elect one of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to be Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for one whole Year then next following: And that then and there they shall and may nominate and elect, before they depart from thence, one of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for one whole Year then next following, and after that he so as aforesaid shall be nominated and elected into the Mayoralty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and that before he is admitted to execute that Office shall take his Corporal Oath upon the Holy Evangelists, Yearly upon that Day of Election; if he shall be present, and if absent, then

within one Month next after the said Day of Election, before the last Mayor his Predecessor, to execute that Office honestly, well and faithfully in all Things touching the said Office: And after the said Oath so taken the Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid shall and may be executed until the Feast of *St. Michael the Archangel* then next following, and from thence until one other of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid be elected, preferred and sworn according to the Ordinances and Constitutions as above in these Presents declared. AND WE FURTHER WILL, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and their Successors, that if it shall happen the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid at any Time hereafter, within one Year after he shall have been preferred and sworn into the Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, shall die or be removed from his Office, which Mayor WE WILL shall be removed from his Office upon bad Behaviour or any other reasonable Cause, according to the Will of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or the major Part of them for the Time being, that then and as often as it shall conveniently be, the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, met and assembled for that Purpose within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, within a convenient Time after the Death or Removal of such Mayor, they shall elect and prefer one of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid into the Place of such Mayor so dead or removed from his Office; and that he so elected and chose into the Office of Mayor, by his Corporal Oath before two or more of the Capital

Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, in that Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, in and for all Things touching the Execution of the said Office as before mentioned, do hold and execute that Office during the Remainder of the Year, and from that Time until another of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid be duly elected, preferred, and sworn into that Office, and in like Manner as often as the Case shall so happen: WHEREFORE WE WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant to any two or more of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, the Case happening as aforesaid, full Power and Authority to administer the said Oath as aforesaid, to the Mayor from Time to Time to be nominated and chosen, without any Commission or further Warrant to be procured or obtained in that Behalf; and if and as often as it shall happen that any or either of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, shall die or be removed from his Office, which Capital Burgesses, or any or either of them, not behaving himself or themselves well or for any other reasonable Cause, WE WILL that he or they shall be removed according to the Direction of the Mayor and Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, that then and as often as it shall and may be convenient to the Mayor and the rest of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, for that Purpose met and assembled, within a convenient Time, within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to nominate, &c. &c. elect and prefer one other or more of the more honest and discreet Inhabitants of the

Borough and Foreign aforesaid, into the Place or Places of such Capital Burgesses so dead or removed from his or their Office, to supply the aforesaid Number of twenty-four Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and that he or they so elected and preferred into the Office of a Capital Burgess or Capital Burgesses of the Borough aforesaid, to hold and exercise that Office during his or their natural Lives, unless in the mean Time they or any of them shall be removed for any reasonable Cause as aforesaid, a Corporal Oath being first taken before the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid upon the *Holy Evangelists*, for the Execution of that Office honestly, well, and faithfully. WE FURTHER WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor and Comunalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and to their Successors, that if it shall happen that the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, shall be so afflicted with Sicknes that he cannot possibly look after the Business of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or depart from the said Borough and Foreign for any reasonable Cause by the Leave of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, that then and as often as it shall happen, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, to make and appoint one of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to be the Deputy of such Mayor for the Time being, so afflicted with Sicknes, or absent for any reasonable Cause to be allowed as aforesaid, to be continued in that Office in the absence of the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, which Capital Burgesses so to be deputed and appointed in that Office

of Mayor, shall do and execute all and every Thing and Things which belong, or ought to belong to the Office of the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign, to be done and executed within the aforesaid Borough and Foreign, the Liberties and Precincts of the same, and shall during the Time of the Absence or Sicknes of the Mayor for the Time being, by Virtue of these our Letters Patent, as fully, freely and largely, and in as ample a Manner, as the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, if he had been present, might or could execute by Virtue of these our Letters Patent, or by any other Means, having first taken his Corporal Oath before any Two or more of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, truly, well, and faithfully to execute all and every the Things which belong to the Office of Deputy-Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and in like Manner, as often as the Case shall happen. WHEREFORE WE WILL and by these Presents, for us, our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant full Power and Authority, to Two or more of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, of giving and administering, a Corporal Oath upon the *Holy Evangelists*, to any Deputy-Mayor, in such Case as aforesaid, to be appointed for the faithful Execution of the Office of Deputy-Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, according to the Tenor of these Presents, without any Commission or other Warrant in that Behalt to be obtained. AND MOREOVER, out of our special Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, WE GRANT, for us, our Heirs and Successors, unto the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that if any one shall hereafter be appointed and elected into the Office of Mayor of the

Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and having Knowledge or Notice of his election and Appointment, shall refuse or deny to take upon himself to execute that Office, then, and as often as it shall and may be convenient for the Mayor and Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign, aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, for ever to assess and impose a Fine or an Amerciament upon any one so refusing and denying to take upon himself, and execute the Office of Mayor; and in Default of such Payment, Fine and Amerciament, to take and commit him or them to the Gaol of the said Borough and Foreign, and there keep him until he shall pay, or cause to be paid, such Fine or Amerciament, for the Use of the Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid; which Fines and Amerciaments, for us, our Heirs and Successors, we give and grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty, and their Successors, with Composition or any other Agreement for the future, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, by any Means to be rendered, paid or made. WE LIKEWISE WILL, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that they and their Successors for ever hereafter, have and retain within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, one discreet Man skilled in the Laws of *England*, and some other discreet and fit Man who shall be, and be named Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid. And we do give and grant for Us, our Heirs and Successors by these Presents, to the said Mayor and Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, full Power and Authority from Time to Time, of nominating, electing and preferring one discreet Man skilled

in the Laws of *England*, or some other discreet and fit Man to be Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to continue in that Office during the good Pleasure of the Mayor and the major Part of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, and that he for a reasonable Cause shall be removed, and another appointed in his Place, and in like Manner as often as the Case shall so happen. WE LIKEWISE WILL that every Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, before he be admitted to execute that Office, shall take his Corporal Oath upon the *Holy Evangelists*, before the Mayor of the Borough aforesaid, for the Time being, well and faithfully to execute the OFFICE of Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, in and for all Things relating to the said Office of Recorder. AND THAT in like Manner there be within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, one discreet Man, who is and shall be called the Common or Town-Clerk of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and that our Intention in that Behalf may take the better Effect, WE GIVE AND GRANT, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, by these Presents, to the Mayor and the major Part of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, full Power and Authority, from Time to Time, for nominating and electing one discreet and fit Person to be the Town-Clerk of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to remain in that Office during the good Pleasure of the Mayor and the major Part of the Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, having first taken his Corporal Oath before the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, well and faithfully to execute that Office. AND FURTHER out of our more abundant and special Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion have granted, and by these

Presents, for us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that they and their Successors have and hold, and they are hereby empowered and enabled to have and hold within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, a certain Court of Record before the Mayor, Recorder and Town-Clerk of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or two of them, or their sufficient Deputy in the aforesaid Guildhall, or any other convenient Place in the said Borough and Foreign on any *Tuesday* in any Week, or within a Fortnight, or in a shorter or longer Space of Time as Occasion require, to be held for ever. AND THAT the said Mayor, Recorder, and Town-Clerk, or Two of them, or their Deputy as aforesaid, for the Time being, have full Power and Authority from Time to Time, of hearing and determining by Plaint in the same Court, of all who seek to be relieved in all and every Debts, Compositions, Contracts, Covenants, and Trespasses, with Force and Arms, or otherwise in Contempt of Us, our Heirs and Successors, committed or to be committed, Detainers, Contempts, Frauds, and other personal Complaints whatsoever, within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and the Limits, Boundaries, or Liberties of the same, or any of them, so arising or to arise, happening or to happen, provided always, that the said Debts, Agreements, Contracts, Covenants, Trespasses, and other Actions and Pleas, exceed the Sum of Forty Shillings, and do not exceed the Sum or Value of Twenty Pounds. AND THAT the same Mayor, Recorder, and Town-Clerk of the Borough aforesaid, for the Time being, or their sufficient Deputies, in such Plaints, Pleas, Complaints and Actions, have Power, Authority and Faculty to defend PERSONS against whom such Plaints, Pleas or

Actions shall happen to be commenced or moved, and to direct the Serjeants at Mace of the Borough and Foreign for the Time being, to bring to Plea by Summons, Attachments, and Distringas. And for Default of Lands and Chattels of such Defendants within the Borough or Foreign aforesaid, and the Limits, Precincts and Liberties of the same, where there may be either Summons, Attachments, or Distress by Attachments, or taking their Bodies; provided that such attachment or taking of any Man's Body to answer any Action, Plea or Plaint, be not in or upon any Day or Days, whereon a Market or Fair is held in the Borough and Foreign aforesaid; and to hear and determine separately, all and every Action, Plaints and Pleas as above-mentioned, and to examine and determine by like Process, Judgment and Execution of Judgment by such Pleas, are examined and determined in any other Borough or Town-Corporate, within our Kingdom of *England*, and that Execution of Processes and Judgment be made out and served by the aforesaid Serjeants at Mace. **AND WE FURTHER WILL** and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, That they and their Successors for ever hereafter, may and shall have within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, Two Officers who shall be and be called Serjeants at Mace of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to serve in the Court of the said Borough and Foreign. **AND** to make out and execute Processes, Distresses, Attachments, Arrests, Panels of Juries, Executions of Judgments, Precepts, Warrants, and other Businesses whatsoever within the Borough and Foreign, Liberties or Precincts of the same, which belong to the said Office of Serjeant at Mace, in like Manner as is usual and customary, or ought to be

done in other Courts of Record, in any other Boroughs or Towns-Corporate within our Kingdom of *England*; which said Serjeants at Mace, shall be appointed and elected by the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, and shall from Time to Time be attending upon, and over the Mayor and Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being. WE LIKEWISE WILL AND ORDAIN, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that the said Serjeants at Mace so appointed as aforesaid, shall carry and bear, and be impowered to carry and bear within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts of the same; Silver or Golden Maces engraved and adorned with the Mark of the Arms of Us, our Heirs and Successors, before the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, in any Place within the Borough aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts of the same. AND WE FURTHER WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that the aforesaid *William Webb*, now Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, before-mentioned in these Presents, to be the first and now Mayor of the said Borough and Foreign, during the Time aforesaid, in which he shall execute the Office of Mayor in the same, and also the Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, and likewise the said *John Wollaston* and *Henry Stone*, lately Two of the most Ancient Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, in Degree and Order, and Two of the most Ancient Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being. And likewise any Person

who shall hereafter exercise the Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, during one Year after they shall have left the Office of Mayor for ever hereafter, may and shall be Justices of the Peace, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, and any of them, shall and may be a Justice of the Peace, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, to preserve and keep, and cause to be preserved and kept, the Peace of Us, our Heirs and Successors, in the same Borough and Foreign, the Liberties and Precincts thereof; and also to preserve and keep, and cause to be preserved and kept, the Statutes of Tradesmen and Labourers, Weights and Measures, within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts of the same. AND ALSO according to the Statutes concerning Tradesmen, that the Capital Burgesses of the most Ancient in Degree and Order of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and whatsoever Person shall exercise the Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, during one Year after he shall depart from the Office of Mayor, or any Two or more of them, of whom We will, that the Mayor and Recorder of the Borough aforesaid be One, have Power and Authority to enquire by the Oath of Twelve or more good and lawful Men of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, by whom the Truth of the Matter may the better be known, or otherwise, of whatsoever Crimes, Defaults, and Articles done, moved, or committed, or hereafter to be done, moved, or committed within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and all other Things to be done, heard and determined in the same, within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts thereof, which Justices and Keepers of the Peace in any County of our Kingdom of *England*, by the Laws and Statutes of such our Kingdom as Justices of the Peace, of themselves ought and are empowered to do and

make Enquiry. And for the Chastisement and punishing Offenders, and causing and making them find Security according to the Laws and Statutes of our Kingdom, yet so, that they nor any of them proceed to Trial or Determination of any Conspiracy, Murder, or Felony whatsoever, or in any other Matter or Thing touching the Loss of Life or Members within the Borough or Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts thereof. WE LIKEWISE WILL that the said *William Webb* now Mayor, and the said *John Wollaston* and *Henry Stone* the now Two most Ancient Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, before they be admitted to execute the Offices of Justices of the Peace of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, shall take a Corporal Oath upon the *Holy Evangelists*, well and faithfully to execute the Office of a Justice of the Peace within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts thereof. And likewise they and each of them shall take the Oath in that behalf, required by the Statute of our Kingdom of *England*, to be by a Justice of the Peace, before our beloved *Simon Weston*, *Edward Littleton*, *Walter Chetwynd*, *Hugh Rochley*, Knights, and *Humphry Wyrley*, Esquire, or any Two or more of them; to which said *Simon Weston*, *Edward Littleton*, *Walter Chetwynd*, *Hugh Rochley*, and *Humphry Wyrley*, or any Two or more of them, WE GIVE AND GRANT full Power and Authority to administer such Corporal Oath as aforesaid, upon the *Holy Evangelists* aforesaid, to the Mayor and the Two most Ancient Capital Burgesses above-mentioned, of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid by these Presents, without any Commission, or any other or further Warrant in that behalf to be had and obtained, from Us, our Heirs and Successors. WE ALSO WILL and by these Presents, constitute and ordain, that any Mayor or Re-

corder, or Two of the most Ancient Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, and likewise any Person who shall hereafter hold the Office of Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, shall by Virtue of these Presents, execute the Office of Justice of the Peace of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, but before he be admitted into the Execution of the Office of Justice of the Peace, they and each of them shall take his and their Corporal Oath upon the *Holy Evangelists*, well and faithfully to execute the Office of Justice of the Peace, within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts thereof, and likewise the Oath in that behalf required and provided by Laws and Statutes of our Kingdom of *England*, to be taken by the Justices of the Peace before the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid. To which Mayor for the Time being, WE GIVE AND GRANT, and by these Presents do give and grant full Power and Authority to administer such Oath as aforesaid, to the said Justices to be hereafter appointed without any further Commission or Warrant to be obtained. And likewise for Us, our Heirs and Successors, WE WILL, that as well every the Mayors of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid hereafter to be appointed, as likewise the present Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign in these above-mentioned, and all other Capital Burgesses hereafter to be appointed in the same. And also the Recorder and Town-Clerk of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, and all and every Serjeants at Mace hereafter to be appointed in the same, shall from Time to Time for ever hereafter, separately and respectively take their Corporal Oath upon the *Holy Evangelists*, before the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, to execute their Offices and Places within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the

Liberties and Precincts thereof, and for the better Execution thereof from henceforward, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, WE GIVE AND GRANT to the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, absolute Power of administering such Oath as aforesaid, and that without any further Commission or any other Warrant from Us, our Heirs and Successors, to be hereafter had or obtained. WE HAVE LIKEWISE GRANTED and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and Successors, that they and their Successors have and hold within the Borough aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts of the same, one Prison or Gaol, for the safe keeping and Custody of all and every the Prisoners attached or to be attached, or committed to the Goal or Prison of the Borough aforesaid, for any Cause arising or happening within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts thereof, there to remain and continue until they shall be discharged by due Course of Law, and that the Mayor of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, or any Person to be appointed by the said Mayor, for whom he shall be answerable, shall be Keeper of the said Goal, WE HAVE LIKEWISE GRANTED and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, that the Mayor, Recorder, and Two of the most Ancient Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, for the Time being, and any who shall hold the Office of Mayor of the Borough aforesaid, and during one Year after he shall leave his said Office, and be in the Office of Justice of the Peace, or any Two or more of them, whom WE WILL, that the Mayor or Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the

Time being, be One, that they may and are impowered by their Warrants in Writing, their own Hands being thereunto subscribed, signed and sealed, to send all such and the like Persons who shall be hereafter taken, arrested, attached, or found in the Borough or Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties or Precincts thereof, for Conspiracy, Murder, Homicide, Felony, or Robbery, committed or to be committed, or for Suspicion of the said Offences or Crimes, to the common Goal of our County of *Stafford*, there to remain and be tried, and answer for their Offences before the Justices of Us, our Heirs and Successors, assigned, and to be assigned, to hear and determine, or to make a Goal-Delivery of our said County. IT BEING OUR WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, commanding as well the Sheriff of the County of *Stafford* aforesaid, as also the Keeper of the Common-Gaol of the said County of *Stafford*, for the Time being, that they and each of them upon such Warrant by the said Justices of the Peace within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, to be made, and to them or either of them directed, all such Persons as aforesaid, by the said Justice of the Peace within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, hereafter to be taken, arrested, attached, or secured in the said Borough and Foreign, the Liberties or Precincts thereof, for Murder, Homicide, Felony, or Robbery done or committed, or for Suspicion of the said Offences, and to be sent to the said Common-Goal of the said County of *Stafford* as aforesaid, to be received and kept in safe Custody, there to remain and be tried, and answer for their Offences as aforesaid. And these our Letters Patent or the Inrollment thereof, shall be to the said Sheriff and Keeper of the Common-Goal of the County aforesaid for the Time being, a sufficient Warrant and Discharge in that behalf. AND

FURTHER ALSO out of our more abundant and special Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, WE WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that the Mayor and Capital Burgesses of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid for the Time being, be not put or impanelled, nor any of them be put or impanelled upon any Jury of Assize or other Inquest whatsoever, before the Justices of Us, our Heirs and Successors, assigned or to be assigned, to take the Assizes or Goal-Delivery, or before our Justices assigned or to be assigned to keep the Peace within the County of *Stafford* aforesaid, out of the Borough or Foreign aforesaid, and that no Issue or Amerciament whatsoever, by Reason thereof be hereafter levied, nor any of them do levy for Us, our Heirs and Successors, but shall be acquitted thereof for ever, unless they or any of them have Lands and Tenements out of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties or Precincts thereof, for which he or they may be summoned. WE LIKEWISE WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, that all and every the Burgesses, Inhabitants and Men of the Borough and Foreign, as well now as hereafter, and always for ever, be free, acquitted and discharged, throughout our whole Kingdom of *England*, from the rendering or Payment of Impost or Toll, in as ample Form, as the People of the Manor of *Walsall* formerly were, and have been intituled to by Means, Force and Virtue of certain Letters Patent, dated at *Westminster* the Eighth Day of *July*, in the Forty-seventh Year of *Edward* the Third, late King of *England*, or of some other Letters Patent of our Progenitors or Ancestors,

Kings of *England*, heretofore made or granted. WE THEREUPON HAVE GRANTED and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty and their Successors, special Licence, Liberty, lawful Power, Ability and Authority of purchasing and taking Possession to themselves and their Successors for ever, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Meadows, Feedings, Pastures, Woods, Underwoods, Rectories, Tythes, Reversions, or other Hereditaments whatsoever, as well for Us, our Heirs and Successors, as for any other Person or Persons whatsoever, who do not immediately hold of Us, our Heirs or Successors, in Capite nor by Knights-Service, so as the said Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Meadows, Feedings, Pastures, and other Hereditaments so by them to be had, held and received, do not exceed in the whole the clear Yearly Value of Twenty Pounds, above all Issues beyond Reprizes, the Statute for not putting of Lands and Tenements in Mortmain, or any other Statute, Act Order or Provision heretofore made or ordained, or provided, or any other Matter, Cause or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. WE LIKEWISE GIVE and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to all and every of the Subjects of Us, our Heirs and Successors, special, free and lawful Power, Licence and Authority, that they or any of them, shall and may give and grant, sell, devise, or alien, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Meadows, Feedings, Pastures, Woods, Underwoods, Rectories, Tythes, Yearly Rents, Reversions, Services, or other Hereditaments whatsoever, which are not immediately held of Us, our Heirs or Successors in Capite or by Knights-Service, to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Suc-

cessors, so that the said Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Meadows, Feedings, Pastures, and Hereditaments, so to be given, granted, devised, or aliened to the said Mayor and Commonalty and their Successors, by Virtue of these Presents, do not exceed in the whole the clear Yearly Value of Twenty Pounds, above all Issues beyond Reprizes, the Statute for not putting of Lands and Tenements in Mortmain, or any other Statute, Act, Order, or Provision, or any other Matter, Cause, or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. AND WE FURTHER WILL and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign of *Walsall* aforesaid and their Successors, that they and their Successors from henceforth for ever hereafter, have, hold and keep, and they shall and may have, hold and keep within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Liberties and Precincts thereof, Yearly and every Year, Two Marts or Fairs, the first of which said Marts or Fairs to begin in and upon the Day or Feast of *St. Matthias*, and to be held and continue throughout that whole Day or Feast. And the other Mart or Fair to begin on the *Tuesday* next before the Feast of *St. Michael the Archangel* Yearly, and to be held and continue throughout the whole *Tuesday*, together with a Court of Pye-Powder at the said several Times of the Marts or Fairs, so to be held as aforesaid, with all Liberties, free Customs, Stallage, Piccage, Fines, Amerciaments, and all other Profits, Commodities and Emoluments whatsoever to the said Fairs or Marts, and Courts of Pye-Powder belonging, happening, arising, or appertaining. Provided nevertheless, that the said Fairs or Marts, or either of them, be not to the Damage or Prejudice of any other neighbouring Fairs or Marts near

thereto adjoining. WHEREFORE WE WILL and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do firmly charge and command that the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, have, hold and keep, and shall and may have hold and keep within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or the Liberties and Precincts thereof, or any of them, Yearly and every Year for ever, the aforesaid two Fairs or Marts, the first of them on the aforesaid Day or feast of *St. Matthias*, to begin and be held, kept and continued throughout that whole Day or Yearly Feast. And the second of the said Fairs or Marts on the aforesaid *Tuesday* next before the Feast of *St. Michael the Archangel* Yearly, to begin and be held, kept and continued throughout that whole *Tuesday*, together with the Court of Pye-Powder there, at the Time of the said Fair or Mart to be holden together, with all Liberties and free Customs, Tolls, Stallage, Piccage, Fines, Amerciaments, and all other Profits, Commodities, Advantages and Emoluments whatsoever, to the said Fair or Mart, and Court of Pye-Powder, belonging, happening, arising or appertaining. And this without any Writ of *ad quod dampnum*, or any other Writ issuing out of our Court of Chancery or elsewhere. Provided nevertheless, that the said Fairs or Marts, or either of them, be not nor shall be to the Damage or Prejudice of any other neighbouring Fairs or Marts near thereto adjoining. And moreover out of our more abundant and special Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, for us, our Heirs and Successors, We give, grant and confirm to the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, all and all Manner of Liberties, Franchises, Immunities, Executions, Priviledges, Freedoms, Juris-

dictions, Markets, and Hereditaments whatsoever, which the Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign now hold, use and enjoy, and which any of them and their Predecessors by whatsoever Name or Names, or by whatsoever Incorporation or by Means of whatsoever Corporation heretofore had, held, used, and enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, used or enjoyed of hereditary Right by Reason or Colour of any Charters or Letters Patent, of any of our Progenitors or Predecessors, late Kings or Queens of *England*, in any wise heretofore made, granted or confirmed, or whatsoever other Custom, Right or Title, prescribed or used, heretofore lawfully used held or accustomed, although the same or any of them, or any other heretofore have not been used, or have been abused or discontinued, and although the same or any of them, or any other have been forfeited or lost, to be had, holden, and enjoyed, by the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, for **WHEREFORE WE WILL**, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, firmly require and command that the aforesaid Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid and their Successors, have, hold, use, and enjoy, and shall and may for ever have, hold, use and enjoy, all Liberties, free Customs, Priviledges, Authorities, Jurisdictions, and Immunities as aforesaid, according to the Tenor of these our Letters Patent, without any Hindrance or Impediment from Us, our Heirs and Successors whomsoever, **BEING UNWILLING** that the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, and their Successors, or any or either of them by Reason of the Premisses or otherwise by Us, our Heirs or Successors, or the Justices, Sheriff, Escheator, or other Bailiff's-Officer, of Us, our Heirs or Successors what-

soever, should be disturbed, molested, interrupted, or over-ruled by Occasion thereof, or otherwise howsoever. WE WILLING and, by these Presents, commanding and requiring as well our Treasurer, Chancellor, and Barons of our Exchequer at *Westminster*, and all other the Justices of Us, our Heirs and Successors, as our Attorney-General for the Time being, and every of them, and all other our Officers and Ministers of Us, our Heirs and Successors whomsoever, that neither they nor any of them, make or cause to be sued or prosecuted, or any of them make or cause to be sued or prosecuted by any Writ or Summons of *Quo Warranto*, or any other our Writ or Process whatsoever against the said Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or any of them or any others, for any Cause, Matter, Offence, Clamour or Disturbance by them, or any of them, duly claimed, used, attempted, held or usurped before the Day of granting these Presents. WE WILLING ALSO, that the Mayor and Commonalty of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, or any of them, by themselves or any Justices, Officers, or Ministers aforesaid, in and for the due Use, Claim or Abuse of any other Liberties, Franchises, or Jurisdictions, within the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, the Limits and Precincts thereof, before the Day of granting these our Letters Patent, be in no wise molested or hindered, or compelled to answer to them or any of them. WE MOREOVER WILL, that these our Letters Patent, or any Thing herein contained, shall by no Means extend themselves, or be construed or interpreted to extend to the Prejudice, Derogation, Interruption or Damage of any of the Authorities, Priviledges, Liberties, Exemptions, Jurisdictions, and Profits, which belong or appertain, or ought to belong or appertain to the Lord of the Manor of *Walsall* aforesaid, for the Time being, in Right

of his Manor, by Reason, Means, or Force of any Charters, Letters Patent, or Grants by Us, or any of our Progenitors or Ancestors heretofore made, or by any other lawful Custom, Right or Title, but that the said Lord of the Manor of *Walsall* for the Time being, for ever hereafter, shall and may have, hold and enjoy the same Authorities, Priviledges, Liberties, Exemptions, Jurisdictiones, and Profits, well, peaceably, quietly and freely, any Thing in these Presents contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding AND OUR FURTHER WILL is, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty and their Successors, that these our Letters Patent, or the Inrollment thereof shall be firm, valid, and effectual according to the true Meaning thereof. BECAUSE that it is expressly mentioned, &c. IN TESTIMONY whereof, &c. T. R. at *Westminster*, the Twentieth Day of *July*, in the Third Year of the Reign of King *Charles*, by a Writ of the Privy-Seal, &c. And we have at the Request of *John Wollaston*, Gentleman, Mayor, and *John Byrch*, Gentleman, Recorder of the Borough and Foreign aforesaid, by the Tenor of these Presents, caused the same to be exemplified. IN TESTIMONY whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. WITNESS Our-self at *Westminster*, the Twenty-second Day of *February*, in the Thirteenth Year of our Reign.

Grymston Br.

CHURCH WARDENS

OF

WALSALL.

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

Easter.

1760 John Smith
William Kendrick
1761 John Smith
William Kendrick
1762 Thomas Huxley
William Kendrick
1763 Richard James
William Kendrick
1764 Richard James
William Kendrick
1765 Richard James
William Kendrick
1766 Joseph Cotterell, jun.
William Kendrick
1767 Simon Waddams
William Kendrick
1768 Simon Waddams
Joseph Bradley

Moses Bird
Rich. Hollinsed, jun.
Charles Thornhill
William Green
Rich. Persehouse, esq.
William Green
Thomas Fowler
William Green
Thomas Fowler
William Green
Moses Yeomans
John Scott
John Bealey
John Scott
John Bealey

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

Easter.

1769 Joseph Bradley	John Whistance
Simon Waddams	George Harrison, jun.
George Smart	
1770 Stephen Barber	William Woolrich
Joseph Spurrier	George Harrison, jun.
1771 Stephen Barber	Benjamin Crutchley
Jacob Smith	William Woolrich
1772 John Jesson	Isaac Lea
John Hemming	Benjamin Mountfort
1773 Joseph Barber	Richard Green
John Nicholls	Benjamin Mountfort
1774 Thomas Hector	Thomas Oerton
Edward Lycett	Samuel Humphries
1775 Deykin Hemming	Thomas Oerton
Benjamin Williams	William Quinton
1776 John Adams	Thomas Oerton
Benjamin Williams	William Quinton
1777 John Adams	Thomas Oerton
Benjamin Williams	Thomas Southorn
1778 John Adams	William Harvey
Benjamin Williams	Thomas Southorn
1779 Joseph Wood	Edward Winser
Thomas Carless	William Harvey
1780 Joseph Wood	Joseph Hollinsed
Thomas Carless	Edward Winser
1781 John Hemming, gent.	Edward Crowther
Thomas Adams	Samuel Turner
1782 John Hemming, gent.	Edward Crowther
Thomas Adams	John Oakley

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

Easter.

1783	Green Nicholls	Edward Crowther
	Richard Barber	Robert Hildick
1784	Josiah Adams	William Cowley
	Roger Hall	John Woodward
1785	Josiah Adams	John Woodward
	Roger Hall	William Cowley
1786	Richard Burrows	William Harvey
	Benjamin Wallis	Richard Groves
1787	Joseph Day	Daniel Marlow
	Benjamin Wallis	
1788	Benjamin Wallis	Daniel Marlow
	Joseph Day	William Nevill
1789	William Spurrier	Daniel Marlow
	Joseph Day	Thomas Turner
1790	William Spurrier	Daniel Marlow
	Joseph Day	Thomas Turner
1791	Thomas Spurrier	Thomas Wood
	Stephen Barber	Robert Hildick
1792	Thomas Spurrier	Thomas Wood
	Stephen Barber	Robert Hildick
1793	Thomas Spurrier	John Shenton
	Stephen Barber	Richard Stanway
1794	Christopher Wren	John Shenton
	Thomas Nicholls	Richard Stanway
1795	Christopher Wren	John Shenton
	Thomas Nicholls	Richard Stanway
1796	Christopher Wren	Richard Stanway
	Thomas Nicholls	Edward Stanley

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

Easter.

1797 Peter Weatherhead	Joseph Curtis
Thomas Nicholls	Edward Stanley
1798 Peter Weatherhead	Joseph Curtis
Thomas Fifield	Edward Stanley
1799 Peter Weatherhead	Joseph Curtis
Thomas Fifield	Edward Stanley
1800 Peter Weatherhead	Joseph Curtis
Thomas Fifield	Edward Stanley
1801 Peter Weatherhead	Joseph Curtis
Thomas Fifield	Edward Stanley
1802 John Eyland	Joseph Day
William Nevill	Joseph Curtis
1803 John Eyland	Joseph Day
William Nevill	Joseph Green
1804 John Eyland	Joseph Day
William Nevill	Joseph Green
1805 Richard Rutter	Joseph Day
Joseph Haden	Joseph Green
1806 Richard Rutter	J. C. Whateley, esq.
Joseph Haden	Jos. Bealey Stanley
1807 Frederick Milward	J. C. Whateley, esq.
B. Barber	Jos. Bealey Stanley
1808 Frederick Milward	J. C. Whateley, esq.
B. Barber	Jos. Bealey Stanley
1809 Frederick Milward	J. C. Whateley, esq.
B. Barber	Jos. Bealey Stanley
1810 Frederick Milward	J. C. Whateley, esq.
B. Barber	Jos. Bealey Stanley

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

Easter.

1811 Chas. Henry Darwall
 Samuel Sharratt
 1812 Chas. Henry Darwall
 Samuel Sharratt

Joseph Harrison
 Thomas Pearce
 Joseph Harrison
 Thomas Pearce

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

OF

WALSALL.

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*For the
Years.*

1759 Thomas Bullock
 Richard Westley
 Joseph Spurrier
 Green Nicholls
 1760 Daniel Hodgkins
 William Francis
 1761 Daniel Hodgkins
 William Francis
 1762
 1763 John Scott
 Joseph Barber
 1764 John Cooper
 Richard Brookes
 1765 John Perks

Charles Thornhill
 Thomas Cooper

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*For the
Years.*

1766 John Swain
George Smart
Edward Holmes
John Perks

1767 Samuel Barber
Samuel Hinton

1768 Thomas Hinton
Richard Barber

1769 Joseph Woollat
Samuel Loynes

1770 Henry Wathew
Edward Lycett

1771 John Nicholls
John Barber

1772 John Adams
John Badger

1773 Joseph Brookes
Josiah Adams
William Newton
John Abell

1774 William Tomlinson
Moses Palmer

1775 Joseph Wood
Thomas Carless

1776 Thomas Adams
John Belcher

1777 Benjamin Mold
Thomas Adams

L. of C.

Richard Green
William Green
Samuel Humphrys
Benjamin Mountfort
Samuel Humphrys
Benjamin Mountfort
Moses Bird
Thomas Somerfield

William Woolrich
Thomas Horton
William Hodson
John Cater
Thomas Southern
John Jackson
John Thomson
William Harvey

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*For the
Years.*

1778 John Fletcher
Wm. Thurstan, jun.

1779 John Lucas
Richard Barber

1780 Thomas Spurrier
Richard Burrowes

1781 William Clarkson
Joseph Cotterell

1782 John Stokes
Robert Cotgrave

1783 John Stokes
Robert Cotgrave
John Heptinstall
Francis Plant

1784 Benjamin Brodhurst
John Westley
John Spurrier

1785 Samuel Adams
Thomas Fifield
John Spurrier

1786 William Adie
Charles James
John Spurrier

1787 Richard Middlemore
Roger Hall

1788 John Kendrick
Richard Cooksey

William Fletcher
John Oakley
Samuel Fletcher, jun.

William Quinton

Thomas Oerton

Samuel Turner

John Woodward

Thomas Heath

Samuel Kendrick

Joseph Hollinsed

Richard Groves

John Stokes

Edward Stanley
William Spooner

Edward Crowther
William Nevill

John Forrister
Samuel Birch

Joseph Green

John Harrison

William Cowley

Elisha Hawkins

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*For the
Years.*

1789 Christopher Wren
Stephen Barber
1790 Edward Wright
Thomas Nicholls
Thomas Pearce
1791 William Walton
Richard Crump
Thomas Pearce
1792 William Penn*
T. Hipkins
Thomas Pearce
1793 James Rooker
Thomas Brookes
Thomas Pearce
1794 Joseph Haden
James Reynolds
Thomas Pearce
1795 Ralph Manley
John Nicholls
Thomas Pearce
1796 Benjamin Mountfort
John Ash
Thomas Pearce
1797 William Spurrier
Samuel Barber
Thomas Pearce

Robert Newman
John Rogers
Joseph Newman
Thomas Hawkins
Thomas Peate
William Heath
John Mountfort
Thomas Turner
Thomas Huskisson
William Colborn
David Walker
John Green
Edward Winsor
John Woodward
William Croshaw
Thomas Bates
John Shenton
John Smith

* Died the 15th of May, 1792, and Thomas Oldham Chinner appointed for the remainder of the year.

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*For the
Years.*

1798	Samuel Fletcher Richard Wathew Thomas Pearce	Whitmore Jones Lawrence Ward
1799	Thomas Scott William Brookes Thomas Pearce	Whitmore Jones Lawrence Ward
1800	William Nevill William Parker Thomas Pearce	John Harrison Charles Worsey John Pearce
1801	John Hobbins John Hemming Thomas Pearce	Joseph Rock Walter Horton
1802	John Vaughan Barber Samuel Sharratt	Simon Fowler John Walker
1803	William Nicholls Richard Rutter	Charles Alblaster Robert Bramall
1804	John Eld Edward Banton	Joseph Adams Samuel Wood, jun.
1805	Benjamin Barber Josiah Adams	Joseph Bealey Stanley William Harrison
1806	John Freeth Joseph Jenns	Henry Quinton Thomas Rowley
1807	Fowler Walker Thomas Carter	Thomas Cadman Joseph Wiggin
1808	James Penn William Elwell	Joseph Day Joseph Harrison
1809	Francis Yates William Mold	Thomas Morris William Garner

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*For the
Years.*

1810 Hill Cox

John Thurstan

1811 Thomas Adams

Joseph Cowley

1812 Samuel Fletcher

Joseph Cotterell

Samuel Beech

Samuel Beech

William Biddle

John Timmins

John Brawn

CURATES OF WALSALL.

1746. The Rev. John Nicholls entered, and resigned the beginning of the year 1761, and was succeeded in

1761, By the Rev. John Darwall, who was made vicar in Sept. 1769, and was succeeded in

1769, By the Rev. David Davenport, who resigned and was succeeded in

1773, By the Rev. Joseph Barber, who resigned, and was succeeded in

—, By the Rev. Charles Davenport, who died about Michaelmas, 1777, and was succeeded in

Dec. 1777, By the Rev. John Kent, who resigned, and was succeeded in

Dec. 1778, By the Rev. J. S. Rutter, who was made vicar in June, 1790, and succeeded in

1790, By the Rev. William Woodcock, who resigned in December, 1794, and was succeeded in

Jan. 1795, By the Rev. Jeremiah Ives Day, who was appointed vicar's curate in July, 1796, when he was succeeded in

——, By the Rev. John White Weekes, as lecturer or curate of Walsall, and at Lady Day, 1798, he resigned, and was succeeded in

——, By the Rev. Charles —— Kippling, who resigned November 24, 1799, and in

May, 1804, The Rev. Israel Bull, was appointed lecturer of Walsall, who resigned the 31st of Dec. 1805, and was succeeded

July 27, 1806, By the Rev. John Brown Wright, as lecturer, who left Walsall the 21th of January, 1808, and was succeeded

March 25, 1808, By the Rev. John Peglar, as lecturer, who resigned at Lady Day, 1810.

ORGANISTS OF WALSALL.

——, John Balaam, (blind,) died —— and was succeeded in

——, By John Alcock, B. M. who died the 29th of March, 1791, (senior batchelor of music in England,) and was succeeded in

1791, By William Rudge, who resigned in January, 1796, and was succeeded in

1796, By Jeremiah Clarke, organist of St. Philip's, Birmingham, who was succeeded

June 24, 1798, By William Rudge, who was succeeded in

1800, By Miss Partridge, who resigned the 26th of December, 1811, and was succeeded in

1812, By James Woolman.

MAYORS OF WALSALL.

Appointed
Sept. 29.

1740 Thos. Bradnock, esq.
1741 Samuel Corbett, esq.
1742 Martin Pashley, esq.
1743 W. Haslewood, esq.
1744 Chas. Steward, esq.
1745 Chas. Steward, esq.
1746 Thos. Bradnock, esq.
1747 Thos. Bradnock, esq.
1748 Sam. Corbett, esq.
1749 Jos. Spurrier, esq.
1750 Sam. Corbett, esq.
1751 Sam. Corbett, esq.
1752 John Coulson, esq.
1753 Thos. Nicholls, esq.
1754 Sam. Corbett, esq.

Appointed
Sept. 29.

1755 Chas. Steward, esq.
1756 T. Bradnock, esq.
1757 C. Turnpenny, esq.
1758 T. Bradnock, esq.
1759 Samuel Short, esq.
1760 John Wilson, esq.
1761 John Bradnock, esq.
1762 Rich. Palmer, esq.
1763 Thos. Huxley, esq.
1764 John Bradnock, esq.
1765 Rich. Palmer, esq.
1766 John Taylor, esq.
1767 Rev. Robert Felton
1768 Thos. Huxley, esq.
1769 John Taylor, esq.

*Appointed**Sept. 29.*

- 1770 John Bradnock, esq.
- 1771 Rich. Palmer, esq.
- 1772 John Taylor, esq.
- 1773 John Stubbs, esq.
- 1774 Jos. Spurrier, esq.
- 1775 Thos. Farmer, esq.
- 1776 Edw. Holmes, esq.
- 1777 John Smith, esq.
- 1778 W. Elwell, jun. esq.
- 1779 Steph. Barber, esq.
- 1780 John Farmer, esq.*
- 1781 John Palmer, esq.
- 1782 Charles Forster, esq.
- 1783 Joseph Stubbs, esq.
- 1784 J. S. Rutter, esq.
- 1785 Benj. Mold, esq.
- 1786 Charles Windle, esq.
- 1787 W. Elwell, jun. esq.
- 1788 John Stubbs, esq.
- 1789 Wm. Kendrick, esq.
- 1790 Thos. Farmer, esq.
- 1791 J. S. Rutter, esq.

*Appointed**Sept. 29.*

- 1792 James Adams, esq.
- 1793 Wm. Adams, esq.
- 1794 D. Hemming, esq.
- 1795 Wm. Hipkins, esq.
- 1796 F. O. Chinner, esq.
- 1797 Rich. Adams, esq.
- 1798 Wm. Adams, esq.
- 1799 John Stubbs, esq.
- 1800 Chas. Forster, esq.
- 1801 James Adams, esq.
- 1802 Walter Spurrier, esq.
- 1803 Chas. Adams, esq.
- 1804 John Stubbs, esq.
- 1805 Rich. Adams, esq.
- 1806 James Adams, esq.
- 1807 Walter Spurrier, esq.
- 1808 Joseph Curtis, esq.
- 1809 Thomas Scott, esq.
- 1810 Wm. Walton, esq.
- 1811 Sam. Wilson, esq.
- 1812 James Adams, esq.

* Died the 30th of June, 1781, and Mr Edward Holmes was appointed in his room for the remainder of the year.

RECORDERS OF WALSALL.

1661. Edward Byrch, esq.

——. Robert Aglionby Slaney, esq. of Hatton, near Shiffnall.

1757. Thomas Gilbert, esq. of Colton, near Cheadle.

——. William Beard, esq. of Newcastle-under-Lyne, who was a Welch judge, and died the 5th of March, 1789.

April 16, 1789. Charles Wallet Willis, esq. of Erdington, near Birmingham, barrister at law, who died the 25th of May, 1794.

July 9, 1794. Nathaniel Gooding Clarke, esq. barrister at law, of Handsworth.

MAGISTRATES OF WALSALL.

1812 James Adams, esq. Mayor,

Chas. Forster, esq.

Chas. Windle, esq.

Sam. Wilson, esq.

} Perpetual Magistrates.

TOWN CLERKS OF WALSALL.

Elected.

1660 Mark Anthony Caesar
 Gallior Delow
 1684 Joseph Gorwey
 1702 Jonas Slaney
 1723 Matthew Stubbs

Elected.

1746 Richard Nevill
 1758 Roger Holmes
 1778 Thomas Hodgkins*
 1807 Joseph Stubbs

CONSTABLES OF WALSALL.

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*Elected**October.*

1773 Benjamin Williams
 1774 William Smith
 1775 Richard Hunt
 1776 Richard Barber
 1777 Joseph Wood
 1778 Edward Lycett
 1779 Joseph Woollett
 1780 John Kendrick
 1781 Richard Middlemore
 1782 Hump. Wainwright
 1783 William Adie

Richard Groves

* Died the 12th of February, 1807, and on the 23d of the same month Mr. Joseph Stubbs was elected.

BOROUGH.

FOREIGN.

*Elected**October.*

1784 William Penn.

1785 Thomas James

1786 Thomas Fifield

1787 Benj. Brodhurst

1788 John Freeth

1789 Charles James

1790 John Badger

1791 Christopher Wren

1792 Benjamin Barber

1793 Thomas Newton

1794 Joseph Burn

1795 Richard Crump

1796 John Thurstan

1797 Frederick Milward

1798 John Swift

1799 John Hobbins

1800 John Ash

1801 Benjamin Mountfort

1802 John Nicholls

1803 Joseph Jenns

1804 Thomas Pearce

1805 Ditto

1806 Ditto

1807 Ditto

1808 Ditto

1809 Ditto

1810 Ditto

1811 Ditto

1812 Ditto

Samuel Perks

Thomas Huskisson

Joseph Green

John Rogers

William Jones

William Spooner

William Colbourn

Thomas Daniel

William Garner

William Colbourn

Joseph Marlow

Jos. Bailey Stanley

Henry Quinton

John Harrison

Elias Hawkins

Joseph Griffin

Titus Somerfield

Ditto

Thomas Rowley

James Goodwin

SURVEYORS OF BYE ROADS

FOR WALSALL.

*Appointed
October.*

1783 John Badger
William Spurrier
1784 Richard Barber
William Spurrier
1785 Joseph Haden
William Spurrier
1786 Joseph Haden
John Heeley
1787 Thomas Cooper
Samuel Birch
1788 Thomas Fifield
John Higgs
1789 Thomas Fifield
Edward Lycett
1790 Thomas James
Robert Smith
1791 Thomas James
Benjamin Brodhurst
1792 Joseph Burn
George Harper
1793 Samuel Barber
William Nevill

*Appointed
October.*

1794 Thomas Clifford
Charles Messenger
1795 Thomas Clifford
John Bramidge
1796 Thomas Clifford
John Bramidge
1797 Peter Cooper
John Bramidge
1798 Peter Cooper
John Bramidge
1799 Thomas Carter
Thomas Bladon
1800 Thomas Carter
Thomas Bladon
1801 Thomas Carter
Thomas Bladon
1802 Thomas Carter
Thomas Bladon
1803 Thomas Nicholls
John Adams
1804 John Thompson
Joseph Simpson

*Appointed
October.*

1805 John Marlow
Joseph Middleton
1806 John Marlow
Joseph Middleton
1807 John Nicholls
Joseph Jenns
1808 John Nicholls
Joseph Jenns

*Appointed
October.*

1809 John Nicholls
Joseph Jenns
1810 Joseph Jenns
William Clarkson
1811 Joseph Jenns
William Clarkson
1812 William Clarkson
John Davis

PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

In Walsall and its Vicinity.

BRIDGE-STREET CHAPEL.

The Chapel in Bridge-street was erected in the year of our Lord 1790; upon ground purchased by public subscription, and by the sale of a chapel in Dudley-street; it is occupied by a congregation of Protestant Dissenters of the Independent denomination, and will contain about twelve hundred people.

The inside is uniform and handsomely pewed; two large corresponding seats in the gallery are appropriated to the accommodation of a Sunday School upon Mr. Lancaster's plan, consisting of forty boys and forty girls.

The present minister, the Rev. Thomas Grove, has officiated about eighteen years, and by his affable and gentlemanly deportment, together with a strict adherence to the duties of his profession, has gained universal respect.

OLD MEETING HOUSE, BANK COURT.

After the destruction of the building belonging to the dissenters of the ancient Presbyterian denomination, which happened in the violent days of Sacheverell, and at the coronation of King George the first, October, 1714, it was re-built by government, 1715. The minister of that day was the Rev. John Godley, of the University of Leyden, who harangued the mob and desired them to abandon their intention of destroying the place. They assured him that, from personal respect, he should not be injured, and pressing him earnestly to depart: to avoid being a witness to the scene, he went away, and the pile was instantly levelled to the ground.—The succeeding ministers were the Rev. Warner Dobson, Rev. R. Winter, Rev. D. Jones, Rev. N. Jones, Rev. T. E. Beasley, Rev. B. Davis, Rev. T. Moore, and the Rev. Thomas Bowen.

This meeting house is situated in Bank Court, on the left-hand side leading towards the church—will contain about 400 persons, and was for near sixty years the only dissenters' meeting house in the place.

A Sunday School, on the general plan, was established by this society, under the Rev. T. E. Beasley, about 24 years ago, on an extensive scale; but the school now existing was established in 1803, and with the assistance of an annual charity sermon, a limited number of from 30 to 35 children are clothed and educated.

The present minister, the Rev. Thomas Bowen, who is also master of an academy in Rushall-street, has officiated, with great satisfaction to his congregation, about 18 years. This gentleman has invented and produced a machine for describing lines of longitude and latitude in maps.

This apparatus will be found very useful in families and seminaries of education, as it will enable even children of moderate abilities, without other assistance, to draw the lines of longitude and latitude of the maps of the World, Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, with mathematical accuracy, facility and expedition. Sold by Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, and Brown, Paternoster Row.

For the utility of this apparatus, reference may be had to the Rev. Abraham Rees, D. D. F. R. S and F. L. S. editor of the new Cyclopædia; and also to the Rev. Thomas Rees, No. 6, Barnard's Inn, London, where a specimen may be seen.

The Rev. Thomas Bowen has, nearly ready for the press, Geographical Exercises, for the use of

schools, containing a method for constructing scales to describe the lines of longitude and latitude. Also the *third* edition of his English Grammar.

On Nov. 14th, 1800, he established a permanent library,* and generously proposed to find a room and librarian, without expence to the subscribers, until it should become too extensive to be accommodated in his house;—that being now the case, it is removed to a public room, at Valentine and Throsby's, stationers, High-street, where it is expected to flourish, and furnish the present and future generations with a copious fund of rational entertainment and improvement.

METHODIST CHAPEL,

Situate in Paradise Court, on the right-hand side of High-street, leading to the church. This chapel was erected in the year of our Lord 1801, is neatly fitted up, and will contain about 400 persons.—The congregation attending this place of worship are of the Westleyan connexion.

BLOXWICH CHAPEL.

This Chapel is pleasantly situated in the middle of a large burial ground, and has been lately planted round

* The Laws of this Library were published by Valentine and Throsby, booksellers.

with trees; it is distant two miles from Walsall, on the left-hand side of the turnpike road leading to Stafford, and when re-built in the year of our Lord 1791, was considerably enlarged, and is now capable of containing about 1100 persons. The inside is handsomely pewed, and there are also spacious galleries, the dimensions of which are in length 65 feet 6 inches, and in breadth 40 feet 6 inches. It is a Chapel of Ease to the vicarage of Walsall, and the curacy is in the gift of St. John's College, Cambridge; but the choice of the minister is left to the inhabitants.

It is a perpetual curacy, and has lately received Queen Ann's Bounty, agreeable to the late augmentation granted by an act of parliament passed in 1811.

The income of this chapel and the sources from which it arises will be seen in the annexed statement.

An Account of the Income of Bloxwich Chapel.

	£.	s.	d.
From the Merchant Taylors', left by Mr. Parker, a Merchant	20	0	0
A piece of land called the Parson's Piece, held by Mr. Whatley	3	3	0
A meadow by Bloxwich turnpike, held by Samuel Kendrick	2	10	0
	<hr/>		
Carried forward ..	25	13	0
	<hr/>		

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	25	13	0
Another piece called the Parson's Piece at the top of the Black Horse Farm, and next the lane that goes to Harden, held by T. Oakley	2	3	0
John Taylor, by his will, left a small piece of land, inclosed, behind Humphrey Brookes's house	1	1	0
From Langthorn's Dole, paid by William Smith, the Clerk, the table of which is in Walsall Church	2	0	0
The curate of Bloxwich receives from the Clergy's Meeting, at Cannock, yearly, about	5	0	0
£100 in money, out of Mr. Walhouse's estates, from which he pays 5 per cent. interest	5	0	0
	<hr/>		
	40	17	0
	<hr/>		

Mrs. Pyrcombe's charity, distributed on St. Peter's Day, gives £100, when £100 is already given as a benefaction for augmenting livings. The trustee is James Barnard, Esq. Crowcombe Court, near Taunton, Somersetshire.

The above, together with some charities, produce only the trifling sum of £50 per annum;—a small stipend for the duty required by an increased population.—The present minister is the Rev. Thomas

Hector Spurnier, L. L. B. late of Worcester College, Oxford.

There is only one Sunday School attached to this chapel at present, and that for boys, the number that receive instruction is upwards of 200; but it is in the contemplation of the committee to institute one for girls.

There is a day school in the chapel yard, where there are 25 boys taught writing and arithmetic, for which the trustees of Walsall Grammar School pay John Green, the present master, £25 per annum for their instruction.

The minister also pays £8 per annum to instruct 15 boys to read.

Henry Whateley, Esq. by his will, dated the 1st of August, 1799, gave to the vicar of Walsall, and the two chapel-wardens of Bloxwich, £6. yearly, for ever, chargeable upon two pieces of land, at Colepool, in the occupation of Benjamin Riley; upon trust that the said vicar and two chapel-wardens, shall give four guineas among such old and infirm men and women, being parishioners of Bloxwich, and not receiving pay from the overseers, as the said vicar and chapel-wardens, or any two of them shall think proper, upon St. Thomas's Day, or as soon after as convenient; and shall also pay to the officiating curate of Bloxwich chapel, one guinea, on his preaching a sermon, in Bloxwich chapel, on St. Thomas's day; and that

the said vicar and chapel-wardens may expend the remaining 15s. in regaling themselves after the distribution.



The following allotment of Land on Essington Wood, was granted by Commissioners under a right of claim of other Charity Land, held by Mr. —, of Bloxwich.

This Indenture made the twenty-fourth day of March, in the fifty-second year of the reign of our sovereign Lord, George the Third, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, and in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, **Between** Thomas Pearce of the Foreign of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, gentleman, and Joseph Harrison, of the Foreign of Walsall aforesaid, farmer, churchwardens for the said Foreign of Walsall of the one part, and William Bodenham of the Foreign of Walsall aforesaid, yeoman, of the other part, ~~Witnesseth~~ that the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison for and in consideration of the yearly rents and covenants hereinafter reserved and contained, and which on the part and behalf of the said William Bodenham his executors, administrators, and assigns, are or ought to be paid, kept, done, and performed, ~~hath~~ demised, leased, and to farm let, and by these presents ~~Doth~~ demise, lease, and to farm let, unto the said William Bodenham ~~All~~ that piece or parcel of land, being an allotment to them the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, upon Essington Wood, in the said county of Stafford, and containing by mensuration four acres and an half, or

thereabouts, be the same more or less, together with all roads, ways, waters, water courses, easements, commons, privileges and appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging, ~~To have and to hold~~ the said piece or parcel of land hereby demised, or intended so to be, unto the said William Bodenham, his executors, administrators and assigns, from the twenty-fifth day of March next ensuing the date hereof, for and during, and unto the full end and term of seventeen years, thence next ensuing, and fully to be compleat and ended. ~~Yielding and paying~~ therefore yearly and every year during the first three years of the said term, unto the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, their heirs, successors or assigns, the clear yearly rent or sum of one shilling, of lawful British money, the first payment thereof, to begin and be made on the twenty-ninth day of September next ensuing the date hereof. ~~And also yielding and paying~~ therefore, in each and every year, during the residue of the said term of seventeen years, unto the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, their heirs, successors or assigns, the clear yearly rent or sum of four pounds and ten shillings, of lawful money of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, current in England, free from all deduction whatsoever, either parliamentary or parochial, on the two most usual days or times of payment in the year; (that is to say) the twenty-ninth day of September, and the twenty-fifth day of March, in each and every year of the said term, by equal portions; the first payment thereof to begin and be made on the twenty-ninth day of September, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifteen. And the said William Bodenham doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators and assigns, covenant, promise, and agree to;

and with the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, their heirs, assigns and successors in manner following, (that is to say) That he the said William Bodenham, his executors, administrators, and assigns, shall and will, yearly and every year, during the aforesaid term of seventeen years, to commence as aforesaid, shall and will, and truly pay or cause to be paid the said yearly rents hereby reserved on the days and times and in manner herein before appointed for that purpose, according to the reservations and true intent and meaning of these presents. And also that he the said William Bodenham shall and will, at his own expense within twelve months from the date hereof, fence out the said allotment, piece or parcel of land, in a good and husbandlike manner, with good posts and rails, and shall and will plant round the same, a good hawthorn hedge row, and shall and will during the said term keep in good and sufficient repair, the gates, bounds and fences belonging to the said piece or parcel of land and premises, and scour and cleanse all the ditches and water-courses on the said premises, and shall and will leave the same well and sufficiently repaired, scoured and cleansed at the end or other sooner determination of the said term. And also that he the said William Bodenham shall and will, during the said term, work and manage the said piece or parcel of land and premises, in a fair and husband-like manner, and shall not commit any waste or spoil thereupon. And also that he the said William Bodenham, his executors and administrators shall and will in the spring season of the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, lay the said piece or parcel of land down for meadow land, in a good and husband-like manner, and shall and will in like manner sow upon each acre thereof, twelve pounds of good read clover seed, one peck of good rye

grass, and six pounds of good Dutch or white clover seed, and shall and will at the same time and in a husband-like manner, lay and spread upon each and every acre of the said piece or parcel of land eight full carts load of good rotton dung at the least, and also shall and will keep and use the said piece or parcel of land in grass, and as and for meadow land during the residue of the said term. Provided always, and these presents are upon this condition, that if the said yearly rent hereinbefore reserved or any part thereof shall happen to be behind and unpaid by the space of twenty-one days next after any of the said days or times hereinbefore appointed for payment thereof, (being lawfully demanded) or if the said William Bodenham shall not in all things well and truly observe, perform, and keep all and every the covenants, articles, and agreements hereinbefore contained on his and their parts and behalfs, that this present lease, and every matter, clause, and thing herein contained on the lesser part shall be void, and then and from thenceforth it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, their heirs, assigns or successors, into and upon the said demised premises or any part thereof, in the name of the whole to re-enter, and the same to have again, re-possess, and enjoy, as in his and their first and former estate, any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding; and the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, doth hereby for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, assigns and successors, covenant and agree to and with the said William Bodenham, his executors, administrators and assigns, that he the said William Bodenham, his executors, administrators and assigns, paying the said yearly rents in the proportions in manner and at the times aforesaid,

and performing all and every the covenants and agreements hereinbefore contained on his or their parts and behalfs, shall and may from time to time and at all times during the said term hereby granted peaceably and quietly, have, hold, use, occupy, possess, and enjoy all and singular the said premises hereby demised, with the appurtenances, without any let, suit, trouble, hindrance, molestation, interruption, or disturbance of them the said Thomas Pearce and Joseph Harrison, their heirs, assigns, or successors, or of any other persons whomsoever, lawfully claiming or to claim by, from, or under them, or either or any of them, or by or through their or any of their acts, means, defaults, privity, consent, or procurement. In witness whereof, the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first before written.

THOMAS PEARCE.

JOSEPH HARRISON.

WILLIAM BODENHAM.

BAPTISMS AT BLOXWICH CHAPEL.

		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>
1801	....	24	....	2
1802	....	31	....	30
1803	....	46	....	32
1804	....	37	....	30
1805	....	43	....	49
1806	....	41	....	42
1807	....	49	....	36
1808	....	40	....	34
1809	....	46	....	27

Baptisms continued.

		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>
1810	....	40	....	42
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		397		342
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total baptisms		739		
		<hr/>		

BURIALS AT BLOXWICH CHAPEL.

		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>
1801	....	60	....	61
1802	....	22	....	33
1803	....	20	....	16
1804	....	17	....	17
1805	....	26	....	17
1806	....	24	....	25
1807	....	26	....	21
1808	....	19	....	10
1809	....	23	....	22
1810	....	17	....	23
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		257		245
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total burials		502		
		<hr/>		

METHODIST CHAPEL AT BLOXWICH.

This chapel is situate near Short Heath, on the right-hand side leading from Walsall to Stafford, was

erected in the year of our Lord 1781; it is 18 feet 3 inches by 29 feet 3 inches inside, and will contain about 400 persons.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.

At Bloxwich, about a mile and a half on the road from Walsall to Stafford, is a Roman Catholic Chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas, the Apostle. This chapel was enlarged in the year of our Lord 1808, and is a small but neat place of worship, capable of containing between three or four hundred persons. It is adorned with some beautiful paintings—the altar-piece, representing the dead body of our Saviour after its being taken down from the cross, is much admired. The present pastor is the Rev. Francis Martyn.

Public and Private

INSTITUTIONS.

FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This School is situate by the side of the church.—Queen Mary, by her Letters Patent, under the great seal, dated the 2nd day of July, in the first year of her reign, did found a Free Grammar School, in Walsall, and did nominate and appoint ten persons of the

village and parish of Walsall, to be governors of the possessions and goods thereof.—And she did thereby grant to the said governors and their successors for ever, in trust for the said school, certain estates, &c. &c. which are amply detailed in the Report of the Committee for Public Charities, and published in 1804.

FREE SCHOOL IN PARK-STREET.

Here is a day school where 50 boys are taught reading, English grammar, writing, and arithmetic, by the present master, Mr. Thomas Mason, for whose instruction he receives a salary of £60 per annum, paid by the trustees of the Free Grammar School.

NEW CHARITY SCHOOL,

Situate in Bridge-street, was erected at the expence of the inhabitants and some donations, in the year of our Lord —.* Mr. Benj. Brodhurst is the present master.

WORKHOUSE.

Adjoins the church-yard, and the new part of it, was erected by Mr. Samuel Fletcher and Mr. Richard Wathew, overseers of the poor, in the year 1799, con-

* See page 20 of this History, for Shaw's account of the old school and establishment.

tains a dining-room 42 feet long, and 15 feet wide, with two lodging rooms over it, of the same dimensions; very pleasant and airy; also a large room in which the poor are employed in spinning woollen and linen for their own wear. It is very inconveniently situated on account of the difficulty of conveyance to it, and all the soft water is carried by hand, by poor persons in the house, for the purposes of washing, &c. &c. for a numerous family.—Two hundred and ten poor persons have been lodged in this house, in the year 1801.

Receptacles for the poor should invariably be situated at an easy distance from a town, in a healthy situation, and where water could be readily obtained; and the out premises should afford room for the children's exercise. To rear hearty children is not only a blessing in itself, but at all times desirable to produce such hands that may be useful in a manufacturing district.

Copy of Inscription on the Stone put up at Walsall Workhouse when first erected.

“ These houses were bought of Mr. Thomas Harris, of Worcester, by the Corporation, for the use of the poor of Walsall.

“ The Mayor paying yearly to the Organist £4 per annum, in the Mayoralty of Richard Burrowes, 1717.”

There is also a Workhouse at Bloxwich, situate near the chapel, in an open and airy situation: it will comfortably contain upwards of 100 persons.

Copy of a Memorandum for the building of the Workhouse, extracted from the Vestry Book.

MEMORANDUM.

It is agreed upon by a Vestry, the 11th day of June, 1727, then appointed and held in the parish church of Walsall, that a Workhouse shall be built. As witness our hands,

J. Etheridge, <i>Mayor,</i>	
John Moss, <i>Minister,</i>	
Thos. Nicholls,	} <i>Churchwardens.</i>
Henry Read,	
Wm. Cotterell,	} <i>Overseers,</i>
Samuel Martyn,	

And signed by many others.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

There are four Sunday Schools in the town of Walsall, supported by annual subscription, with the assistance of two charity sermons in the year. The number of children attending is upwards of 400, for the management of which there is a committee of ten persons, with a president and treasurer.

NEW MARKET PLACE,

Situate at the top of the High-street, adjoining the steps leading to the church, was erected in the year of our Lord 1809, at the expence of the corporation of this town, and during the mayoralty of Joseph Curtis, Esq.*

POST OFFICE,

Situate near the George Inn.

The sum annually remitted from this Post Office for letters coming to the town is nearly £2000, but from the peculiar nature of the business of this place, the letters sent from hence exceed those coming to it, in the proportion of about 6 to 1, so that the whole revenue will not amount to less than 12 or £14,000 per year.

PLACES

OF

PUBLIC AMUSEMENT.

GRAND STAND,

Situate on the Race Ground, was erected ann. dom. 1809, by subscription, in shares of £25 each, and cost

* See page 21 in this work for Shaw's account of the old one.

about £1300 ; each subscriber to receive interest for his money and a free ticket transferable at pleasure. It filled at the races which took place on the 27th and 28th of September, in the same year, with a numerous and respectable company.

Through the usual munificence of Lord Bradford, to this town, a lease has been granted for the road and land, containing 165 square yards, on which it stands,

Commencing 25th of March, 1809

For years 99

Expires 25th of March, 1908

At the annual Rent of One Shilling.

The beginning of the lease runs thus:—This Indenture made the 7th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1811, between the Right Hon. Orlando Lord Bradford, Baron Bradford, of Bradford, in the county of Salop, of the one part, and Henry Crocket, of Little Onn Hall, in the county of Stafford, Esq. Nathaniel Gooding Clarke, of Handsworth, in the said county of Stafford, Esq. John Walhouse, of Atherton, in the said county of Stafford, Esq. John Clements Whateley, of Birch-Hills, in the parish of Walsall, in the said county of Stafford, Esq. James Adams, gent. John Stubbs, banker, John Vaughan Barber, gent. all of Walsall aforesaid, and Joseph Stubbs, of the parish of Handsworth aforesaid, gent. of the other part. Whereas the said Henry Crocket, Nathaniel Gooding Clarke,

John Walhouse, John Clements Whateley, James Adams, John Stubbs, John Vaughan Barber, and Joseph Stubbs, together with divers other persons, by subscription, at their joint expence, have erected and completed, upon the piece or parcel of land intended to be hereby demised, a certain building or stand for the accommodation of the company attending the horse races, which are accustomed to be holden at Walsall, in the county of Stafford. And whereas the said Orlando Lord Bradford, hath consented and agreed to grant a lease of the said piece or parcel of land and building to the said Henry Crocket, &c. &c. &c.—The lease is signed and sealed,

BRADFORD.

In the presence of

BEILBY LAWLEY, of Middleton Park, Tamworth,
HENRY BOWMAN, of Knockin Hall, near Oswestry,
Shropshire.

Architect for Grand Stand, Mr. B. Wyatt, Sutton Coldfield;

Builders for Grand Stand, Messrs. William Nevill and Thomas Carter, both of Walsall.

Stewards of Walsall Races.

Chas. Adams	Walter Spurrier
Chas. Berrington	William Nicholls
J. C. Whateley, esq.	Richard Adams
J. V. Barber	John Stubbs
John Adams	William Adams
Richard Jesson	

The above gentlemen have been stewards, but as the years cannot be accurately obtained, they are entirely omitted.

<i>For the Years.</i>		<i>For the Years.</i>	
1808	Right Hon. Orlando Lord Bradford N. G. Clarke, esq.	1810	Sir R. Lawley, bart. Phineas Hussey, esq.
1809	Henry Crocket, esq. John Walhouse, esq.	1811	Sir J. Wrottesley, bt. T. Gifford, jun. esq.
			Thos. Pearce, Clerk of the Races.
1812	Hon. G. A. Bridgeman* Edward Anson, esq.		Thos. Pearce, Clerk of the Races.

BILLIARD TABLE.

This Billiard Table, which is open by annual subscription, is placed in one of the lower rooms of the Grand Stand; it is an elegant table, and was formerly the private table and property belonging to Lord Chichester Spencer, of Fisherwick Park.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

At the George Inn and Hotel, kept by Mr. Richard Moore Fletcher, is a very spacious Assembly Room.

* The Hon. G. A. Bridgeman being abroad, Lord Bradford presided at the ordinaries on the race days, and kindly officiated for his son.

which was erected in 1793, and is fitted up with three beautiful cut-glass chandeliers, and an orchestra for musicians, and will admit fifty couples to dance without inconvenience.

At the Dragon Inn, situate in the High-street, kept by Mr. James Wakeman, is a large Assembly Room, and was, previous to the building of the theatre, in the Square, taken by the late Samuel Stanton, for many seasons, erecting, within the same, a temporary theatre, consisting of a pit and gallery, in which his company used to perform to many an overflowing house.

THEATRE,

Situate in the Square, was erected in 1803, by subscription, in shares of £50, each subscriber to receive interest for his money, and a silver ticket transferable at pleasure. It is leasehold property, and the ground on which it stands was granted by James Adams, esq. for the term of 99 years. The inside is neatly fitted up with boxes, pit, and gallery, and the receipts of a full house will produce from £50 to £60. It has lately been rented from Mr. Watson, of the Cheltenham theatre, by Mrs. Elizabeth Nunns, a daughter of the late Samuel Stanton, who visited this town many seasons, as manager of a respectable company of comedians.

BOWLING GREENS.

At the Dragon Inn, kept by Mr. James Wakeman, there is an excellent Bowling Green.

At the Dog and Partridge, situate at the Windmill, there is a pleasant Bowling Green, on which is erected a room for the accommodation of the visitors, which commands an extensive view of the adjacent country.

At the Wheat Sheaf Inn, there is a Bowling Green, in the occupancy of Joseph Cooper, situate in Birmingham-street, commanding a view of Barr Beacon, and the country towards Birmingham.

COCK PIT.

Situate on the left-hand side of the entrance into Park-street from Digbeth, at the bottom of a yard belonging to Mr. Fox, known by the sign of the New Inn. It is the property of Mr. Charles Perks, and is spacious and much frequented at the time of the races, at which period only it is used.

MINES.

LIMESTONE MINES,

The property of the Right Hon. Orlando Lord Bradford, in the occupancy of Thomas Price, esq. of Bescot Hall, are situated on the left hand side of the road leading from Walsall to Wolverhampton, near the end of the Birmingham navigation, which terminates at the top of Park-street, and consists of a solid bed of stone of near ten yards thick, of excellent quality, which extends under the whole of the coal and ironstone mines in the neighbourhood; large quantities of this limestone are sent to the iron-furnaces within its vicinity, as a flux for the ironstone ore, and is brought into a state of fusion with that mineral: coal or coke is used in the smelting the ore, and when the ironstone is of a good quality, it takes about one ton three hundred of limestone to a proper portion of the ore in making one ton of pig iron.

BIRCHILLS COLLIERY,

COAL AND IRONSTONE MINES,

situate at Birchills, and at the distance of about one mile from Walsall, the property of Messrs. Stubbs and James; here is a blast furnace erected, and large

quantities of pig iron manufactured; adjoining is also a clay mine, which is made into bricks and tiles, and from the excellent quality of the clay they are enabled to make fire bricks.

GOSCOTT COLLIERY

is situate at Goscott, about two miles from Walsall. This coal mine is worked by Messrs. Bradley and Co. Goscott, and contains a bed of coal of excellent quality; the bed is fourteen feet thick, whereas the veins of coal in the pits of this neighbourhood do not exceed eight feet,—the Wyrley and Essington canal runs through the middle of the colliery.

An exploring mine has been lately opened by the Right Hon. Orlando Lord Bradford, situate near James Bridge, on the road leading from Walsall to Darlaston, and appears to abound in ironstone, and some measures of thin coal; but the quantity of water they have to contend with, has hitherto prevented their sinking sufficiently deep to discover what the bowels of the earth contain.

HAYHEAD MINES.

GREY LIMESTONE MINES,

situate at Hayhead, in the occupation of Mr. John Brindley, at the distance of about two miles from Walsall, on the left hand side the road leading from Walsall to Sutton Coldfield.

This last mentioned mine produces lime which is remarkably good for cementing in water, and is for its peculiar quality conveyed to considerable distances, for the purpose of constructing locks, bridges, aqueducts, &c. The proprietors are the Right Hon. Orlando Lord Bradford, Sir Joseph Scott, Bart. Thomas Daniell, esq. the executors of the late John Wilkinson, esq. and the governors of Walsall Free Grammar School; the strata of the Hayhead Mines are open and thin, and the rock not sufficiently firm to get by shafts, so that the whole is procured by open work.

The greatest quantity of limestone raised is from the adjoining parish of Rushall, which borders very near to the north east part of the town of Walsall, here the stone is almost without an exception, raised through shafts by the power of steam, and some part is got by what is called open work,—by this term is meant that the spoil upon the surface is removed and the limestone laid bare, and then broke small enough to remove into carriages, boats, &c. &c. for the purposes of husbandry, &c. &c.; but the greatest part of the limestone is got by sinking a shaft, excavating the mine, and drawing it up through the shaft.

Dr. Plot in his Natural History takes notice of a very fine limestone that polishes like marble, which is got in the southern parts of this county; “And all about Walsall, particularly at Rushall,

in the lands of the learned Henry Leigh, esq.*” Speaking also of ironstone, he says, “at Walsall and Rushall they also divide their iron-ore into several sorts, such as, 1, black bothum; 2, gray bothum; 3, chatterpye, being of the colour of a magpie; 4, gray measure; 5, mush; 6, white measure. The two first whereof are seldom made use of, they are so very poor; the two middle sorts but indifferent; the two last the principal sorts; but mush the best of all, being many times filled with a brisk sweet liquor, which the workmen drink greedily, and so very rich an ore, that they say it may be made into iron in a common forge.” “The fourth, and best sort of iron, they call tough iron, of which they make all sorts of the best wares, there being nothing so good but may be made of this, for which they have their ore chiefly at Rushall, in the grounds of the worshipful Henry Leigh, esq.†”

“And thus I had finished my account of the iron ores found in this county, but that I think the sweet liquor that attends some of them may deserve a little farther consideration, whereof I received a most accurate account from the worshipful Henry Leigh, of Rushall, esq. in whose lands, particularly in the Mill meadow, in the park; or in the Moss close, near the old vicarage house, and near the furnace piece or leasow, it is frequently met with

* Plott's Staffordshire, p. 153.

† Ibid. p. 159 and 161.

amongst the best sort of ironstone, called *musht*; in round or oval blackish and reddish stone, sometimes as big as the crown of one's hat, hollow, and like a honey-comb within, and holding a pint of this matter; which, according to the colour of the comb within, (whatever the stone be without,) is either red, or white, and, whether the one or the other, of a sweet sharp taste, very cold and cutting, yet greedily drank by the workmen.*"

“ PRESENT LIME WORKS AT RUSHALL.

Moss close, situated between the manor house and Walsall, at the boundaries of the parishes.

These ancient works had lain dormant for a number of years, since Plot's time, till about twenty years ago they were worked again by open work, but, in the year 1791, the present curious and more facilitating mode of work took place. The whole thickness of the mine is about nine or ten yards. The technical terms of the different floors, or strata, are, the first or uppermost, the Covering Burr, the Thick Burr, Chipping Floor, Captain John, Seven Floors, the yellow Clay Floor, the Flinty Floor, Wotty Floor, Thick Floor, Rotten Floors, and Bottom Floor.

At the bottom of the yellow clay floor is a small list of clay, which being taken out with a pike, the

* Plot's Staffordshire, p. 159 and 161.

upper stratas are blown downwards by drilling holes horizontally, and the lower strata are blown upwards by drilling perpendicularly.

These works, being deep, and productive of much water, are necessarily kept dry by steam engines.

There is another work, situated near Daw End, in this parish, called the Upper Park Work, a little to the North-east of the manor house. This is precisely the same as the former, except that this dips Westward, and the former Northward.

A third work is now opening again, after many years rest, called Linley, about a mile North-east from the house, which, like the former, requires the assistance of engines. There are several other similar mines in this lordship, principally belonging to the lord of the manor, which have been formerly worked, and no doubt will be soon opened again.

The demand for lime at these works is much greater than can be at present supplied. The price is 4s. 3d. per quarter or ten bushels.

The Wyrley and Essington canal, passing near the two last works, will open a market for the stone in its raw state, and will reciprocally supply them with coal.

When hearth money was collected, about 1660, here were 73 hearths paid 7l. 6s.

Poor's rates in 1776, 90l. 14s. 2d.

Medium of money paid in three years, 1785 being the last, 162l. 6s. 8d.

Moseley's Dole-penny, which is distributed yearly, upon Twelfth Day, at Walshall and the adjacent villages, as there more fully noticed, is also given to all poor people residing in this parish at that time, and in the same circumstances as those of Walshall; on which account, this village is thought to have been formerly a part of the Forraigne of Walsall."*

LIMESTONE MINE,

the property of James Adams, esq. situate within a few hundred yards of Walsall, adjoining the mines of John Walhouse, esq. and the Rev. Edward Mellish, in the parish of Rushall.

There are several stratas of ironstone, laying over the limestone, and a small portion of lead ore has been also found amongst the limestone.

These mines have been opened about eight years, and the quality of the limestone will well suit the purposes of husbandry, and is particularly calculated for the smelting of iron ore; the last shaft sunk by Mr. Adams in this mine, is of the depth of ninety-nine yards; and the bed of stone eleven yards thick, and is of superior quality.

The working of the various mines gives employment to a great number of hands, but it is to be

* Shaw's Staffordshire, p. 66 and 67.

lamented, that the falling of the rock is frequently fatal to the miners, and accidents are often happening from the machinery, &c.

RYECROFT SAND MINES,

the separate property of James and Charles Adams, esqrs. are extensive, and situate about one mile on the right hand side of the road leading from Walsall to Stafford. These mines produce sand adapted for various purposes; the white sand is calculated for the manufacture of glass, and there is an excellent loam sand for the purpose of fine casting, and an inferior sort that is used for building.

CLAY MINE,

situate near Walsall, the property of Samuel Wood. Bricks, tiles, sough tiles and quarries are made here; there is, also, another clay mine about one mile distant from Walsall, situate on the right hand of the road to Birmingham, where the same articles are manufactured.

TRADES

AND

MANUFACTURES.

The man of science duly considers how infinitely wise Providence has bestowed on various countries its peculiar local advantages; from which circumstance the mutual exchange of produce employs millions of human beings, fills the swelling sail, and forms the grand basis of commerce.

This consideration naturally leads to the contemplation of the local advantages possessed by the inhabitants of this county, and particularly by those of this town and neighbourhood. The numerous and extensive mines of coal, lime-stone, iron ore, clay, &c. &c. which may be called the parents of *trades and manufactures*, are found here of the best qualities and in the greatest abundance. They have been the means of producing the many iron furnaces, forges, and foundaries which have, for a succession of years, performed their ponderous task, converting the inestimable bowels of the earth into a source of employment for thousands of ingenious artists, and in such a

wonderful variety of manufacture, that to detail them would fill a volume.

Some of these, the gun and bayonet,* in the hands of brave British soldiers have conquered the “invincible” legions of Buonaparte; and the cannon and balls, made at Bradley Iron Works,† and directed by a Nelson, have hurled their thunder upon the heads of our inveterate enemies, and contributed to the maintenance of the British empire upon the Main.

For the information of the merchant and the stranger, it will be necessary to explain the business of a Walsall

General Ironmonger and Manufacturer,

from whose spirit and enterprize the three kingdoms are explored, his capital adventured, and who deals in various manufactures, and also every article into which iron, steel, and brass is convertible, for the purpose of furnishing both home and foreign markets.

Articles manufactured in considerable quantities in this town and within three miles distance, viz.:

IRONMONGERY;

that are used in building and furnishing houses, such as locks, hinges, bolts, pullies, latches, screws, grates, fenders, fire-irons, &c.

* Manufactured at Wednesbury, about 3 miles from Walsall.

† The works of the famous iron master, the late John Wilkinson, Esq. situate at Bradley, about 3 miles from Walsall.

Kitchen Utensils.

Pots, kettles, saucepans, coal-hods, grid-irons, chaffing-dishes, box and sad-irons, steelyards and scale beams, coffee mills, metal and iron tinned spoons, &c.

Carpenters' Tools.

Axes, adzès, hatchets, augers, hammers, chissels, gouges, plane irons, squares, &c.

Coopers' Tools.

Axes, adzes, howels, drawing knives, spoke shaves, punches, drivers, chissels, &c.

Plantation Stores.

Hoes, hatchets, bill-hooks, machetes, bar iron, iron hoops, grind stones, &c.

Nails,

Both cast and wrought iron of every description.

Locks, for all purposes.

Cast-iron articles in general.

Spades, shovels, frying pans, vices, trowels, files, &c.

Patten Makers' Articles.

Rings, ties, nails, rivets, &c.

Guns and pistols, and gun and pistol locks.

Japanned and tin ware of every description.

Brushes.

Ivory and bone turnery.

Braces.

Snuffers, steel, iron and japanned.

Buckles, metal, hat, knee and brace.

SADDLERS' IRONMONGERY.

Bridle bitts and bradoons, plated with silver, brass, or composition metal, or polished or tinned,

Snaffles, plated with silver, brass, or composition metal, or polished or tinned.

Stirrups, men's and women's, plated with silver, brass, or composition metal, or polished or tinned.

Stirrups, jointed and spring, plated with silver or brass, or polished steel.

Stirrups, ladies' clog, or Devon; also boys' clog.

Spurs, plated, brass, or polished steel.

Saddle trees, men's, women's, boys', or gig.

Saddle bars, plain, rollered, and spring.

Saddle nails, plated, silver, and brass.

Bridle and martingale mountings, plated, polished, or tinned,

Buckles, plain or rollered for straps, girths, or stirrup leathers, plated, polished or tinned

Curry combs of every kind.

Chains, rings and squares, and all kinds of iron work used in making waggon or cart harness, black or tinned.

COACH FOUNDERY.

Springs and steps and every other description of iron work used in the construction of carriages and also in the manufacture of harness; and all kinds of plated and brass articles used in finishing and decorating the same.

BRIDLE-CUTTING AND CURRYING OF LEATHER.

The art of bridle-cutting is also an important branch of the manufactures of this town. It is a clean and light employ, in which a number of men, women, and boys are engaged. As the demand in this article is extensive, the returns made by the saddlers' ironmongers carrying on this trade, are very considerable.

Through the exertions of the curriers of this town, who have spared neither expence, time, or trouble in the mode of currying their leather, producing the most beautiful brown and fine jet black colours, the saddlers' ironmongers of this place have the pre-eminence in this particular branch of their manufacture.

BRIDLE BITS

Of every description are generally carried to the bridle-cutters, and by them tastefully mounted with

leather suitable to the demand, and for the trade of the country for which they are intended, some of which are superbly mounted with gilt and silver trappings, rosetts, &c. with martingales and cruppers to match, to the value of seventy guineas a single bridle; and many made up in this town have been sent, with other presents, to foreign princes.

Bridles, martingales, cruppers, holsters, horse collar heads, and a variety of other leather straps are manufactured in Walsall, with which the army *contractors* in London are supplied by the saddlers' ironmongers, this place forming, at once, the seat of the manufactory of all kinds of saddlery goods.

HARNESS.

The progress made in the manufacture of harness of all descriptions has been very great, and the elegant chariot, the mail coach, and in short every two and four wheeled carriage are furnished with harness, by the saddlers' ironmongers of this town, in the highest state of perfection. And the waggon horse, the roadster, the hunter, the charger and the high mettled racer are by them caparisoned with what they respectively want.

FILE AND PLATING MANUFACTORY.

Here is a file and plating manufactory on an extensive scale, situate in Ablewell-street, the former of which was established by the late Mr. John Heptin-

stall, about sixty years ago, and now carried on by Mr. Wm. Parker, who manufactures files of all descriptions, not only adapted for the purposes of the various trades of this country, but also for foreign markets.

The manufacturers of this place have, from time to time received considerable improvements by the inventions of many ingenious mechanics, and for which several have been rewarded with his Majesty's Letters Patent.

The remarks upon this head will be concluded with this singularly striking fact,—that Walsall, from its peculiarly central situation, surrounded with mines, procuring the *raw material* at the cheapest rate, manufacturing the same upon the very soil from whence it has been raised; conveyed, when manufactured, by canals which communicate with all the principal sea ports in the kingdom, must, from these combined causes, continue to insure a trade to the enterprizing and industrious inhabitants of this town against all competition.

Directory

OF

WALSALL

BOROUGH AND FOREIGN,
&c. &c.

A.

ADIE Jane, draper, High-street
Ash John, brandy merchant, High-street
Adams Thomas, surgeon, Park-street
Adams John and Sons, factors, Park-street
Adams Charles, Park-street
Adams John, Park-street
Anderson Mary, milliner, Square
Adams James, gent. and an alderman of the corporation,
High-street
Adams William, breeches-maker, High-street
Adams Thomas, carrier, Rushall-street
Adams Josiah, Bridge-street
Adams Samuel, saddlers' ironmonger, Rushall-street
Adams Richard, tanner, Rushall-street
Allen Thomas, victualler, Ablewell-street
Appleby Humphry, locksmith, Paddock lane
Adams Thomas, buckle maker, Ablewell-street
Allen Cornelius, brazier, Ablewell-street
Adams Thomas, brandy merchant, King-street
Alsop Thomas, woolcomber and earthen warehouse, Peal-
street

Adams John, factor and buckle-maker, Birmingham-street
 Adams and Bagley, factors, St. George's-street
 Arnold John, bricklayer, Bloxwich
 Ansell John, shoe-maker, Short Heath
 Arblaster Edward, farmer, Clayhanger
 Allen Edward, victualler, tyger, Birchills
 Acton Richard, plater, Lime-pit Bank
 Arm Thomas, bitt-maker, Little Bloxwich

B.

Barber Benjamin, draper, High-street
 Baylis Thomas, chair-maker, George-street
 Barratt John, bridle-bitt maker, George-street
 Brace Henry, bridle-cutter, Bridge-street
 Barber Samuel, saddlers' ironmonger, Bridge-street
 Barber Henry, brass coach founder, Adams's-row
 Butler Joseph, taylor, Digbeth
 Bakewell Ann, ladies' academy, Digbeth
 Bowrin Joseph, shoe-maker, Park-street
 Barber Stephen, Park-street
 Brindley Samuel, shoe-maker, Park-street
 Bates Thomas, plater, Marsh lane
 Badger and Newman, saddlers' ironmongers, Park-street
 Badger and James, factors, Park-street
 Busst John, bridle-bitt maker, Badger's yard, Park-street
 Bartram Joseph, taylor, Badger's yard, Park-street
 Bache Thomas, schoolmaster, Bridge-street
 Brodhurst Benjamin, charity schoolmaster, Bridge-street
 Bloxwich Stephen, ironmonger, Digbeth
 Baylies Misses, stamp-office, square
 Barber and Son, curriers, Bridge-street
 Barber Vaughan John, Rushall-street
 Bowen Thomas Rev. gentlemen's boarding school, Rushall-street
 Bowden William, Rushall-street
 Brown Thomas, bone brush-turner, Rushall-street
 Brookes John, wire warehouse, Rushall-street
 Bibby Elizabeth, huckster, Rushall-street
 Barker Joseph, wheelright, Rushall-street.—Timber-yard in Bridge-street
 Bentley William, book-keeper, Rushall-street

Brown John, saddle-tree maker, Ablewell-street
 Burbidge Thomas, grocer, Ablewell-street
 Brookes William and Thomas, saddlers' ironmongers,
 Ablewell-street

Bradley Thomas, carpenter, Ablewell-street
 Bellamy Sarah, pipe-maker, Ablewell-street
 Betteridge Philip, watch-maker, Rushall-street
 Bentley Joseph, hatter, hosier, and shoe warehouse, Market
 House

Barber Thomas, hair-dresser, Peal-street
 Bramidge John, baker, Peal-street
 Blakemore James, bridle and harness tongue maker, Cox's
 Court

Brodhurst and Greatrex, platers, Hall lane
 Birch Samuel, buckle-maker, Hall lane
 Bruinmall Hugh, pump-maker, Dudley-street
 Butler Charles, victualler, and Birmingham carrier, sets
 out from the Blue Pig, New-street, Walsall, Tuesday,
 Thursday, and Saturday mornings, to the Lyttelton's
 Arms, Snow-hill, Birmingham, and returns at seven
 o'clock in the evening of the same days

Butler John, bridle-bitt and snaffle maker, New-street
 Brown Joseph, spur-maker, New-street
 Bedson Catharine, milliner, Church-street
 Barnet Samuel, curb and roller buckle maker, Church-
 street

Bullock Mary, huckster, Church-street
 Bagnall William, plater, King-street
 Brecknell Thomas, taylor, King-street
 Bown Francis, spur-rowel maker, Hill-street
 Brookes James, snuffer-maker, Hill-street
 Beadle James, draper, High-street
 Bagnall Joseph, saddlers' ironmonger and patent bridle-
 bitt maker, Park-street

Bond James, stirrup-maker, Bloxwich
 Brookes Humphrey, coach-bitt maker, Bloxwich
 Bradburn George, victualler, Bloxwich
 Birch Samuel, snaffle and bradoon maker, Bloxwich
 Brookes William, coach-bitt, maker, Bloxwich
 Beech Charles, victualler and locksmith, Short-street
 Beech Samuel, miller and maltster, Bloxwich
 Beech Joseph, locksmith, Little Bloxwich
 Beech William, locksmith, Little Bloxwich
 Bickley William, victualler, King's Arms, Little Bloxwich

Bullock John, locksmith, Little Bloxwich
 Bradley and Co. iron founders, Gorscote
 Barker Samuel, victualler, Trooper, Harden
 Butler Samuel, dog-chain maker, Stafford-street
 Banks John, locksmith, Little Bloxwich
 Birch Henry, roller buckle maker, Birchills
 Bird Moses, patent locksmith, Stafford-street
 Busst Mrs. victualler, Birchills
 Bullin John, tanner, Lime-pit Bank
 Brown John, dog chain maker, Lime-pit Bank
 Bolton Roger, farmer, Birmingham Road
 Barber Mrs. Birmingham Road
 Biddle William, saddle-tree and curry-comb maker, New-
 street
 Beebe John, plater, New-street, Field Gate
 Bradbury Richard, castor, New-street, Windmill
 Bramall Robert, gardener, Little London
 Butler Thomas, dog chain maker, Caldmore
 Burton William, farmer, Parks
 Baker James, tinned pelham maker, Bloxwich
 Blakenell —, Bloxwich

C.

Cotterell John, spring stirrup maker, Walsall
 Cokley Robert, letter carrier, Paradise Court, High-
 street
 Colbourn Walter, cabinet locksmith, Park-street
 Clarke Charles, bridle bitt maker, Marsh lane
 Cotterell Joseph, draper, High-street
 Cox Hill, grocer and druggist, High-street
 Cocking John, stirrup-maker, Foster's Yard, Rushall-street
 Clinton Charles, snaffle maker, Rushall-street
 Craddock Benjamin, tin snaffle and mouthing bitt maker,
 Rushall-street
 Clarke John, tin snaffle manufacturer, Tonks's-court,
 Rushall-street
 Curtis Joseph, book-keeper, Rushall-street.
 Collier William, roller buckle maker, Rushall-street
 Cook Charles, taylor, Rushall-street

Cook Mrs. straw bonnet maker, Ablewell-street
 Cox Beley, book-keeper, Ablewell-street
 Carver John, saddler, collar, and whip thong manufacturer, Rushall-street
 Cox John, shoe-maker, Ditch
 Clements William, cooper, Rushall-street
 Cotterell Thomas, schoolmaster, Rushall-street
 Cooper Jane, victualler, Rushall-street
 Chillingworth Thomas, victualler, Peal-street
 Cooper John, fishmonger, Dudley-street
 Cowell John, stirrup-maker, Dudley-street
 Cowleys Joseph and Thomas, coach brass founders, platers, and buckle manufacturers, Dudley-street
 Clinton Robert, Huckster, Dudley-street
 Cotterell Thomas, buckle-maker, Hall lane
 Carter Thomas, carpenter, Dudley-street
 Cowley Thomas, Dudley-street
 Carless —, victualler, Dudley-street
 Carless Joseph, plater, Dudley-street
 Chamberlain Mrs. midwife, New-street
 Cooper Thomas, Birmingham Road
 Cross Thomas, spur rowel maker, Birmingham-street
 Clarkson William, baker, King-street
 Cork Thomas, farmer, Ablewell-street
 Cotterell Richard, victualler, George-street
 Clarkson Mountfort, victualler, Park-street
 Creig William, plater, Broadstone
 Collins William, shoe-maker, Bloxwich
 Carrington George, best steel bitt maker, Bloxwich
 Cooper Joseph, bitt-maker, Bloxwich
 Colbourn William, victualler, Bull's Head Inn, Bloxwich
 Chapman Joseph, tinned bitt maker, Harden
 Cockayne Humphrey, snaffle-maker, Blakenell Heath
 Clarke John, bitt-maker, Birchills
 Curtis Joseph, land surveyor, Bank-street
 Crump Richard, auctioneer, Bank-street
 Cooper Joseph, victualler, Wheat Sheaf, Birmingham-street
 Cooper Henry, curb-maker, Town's End
 Cowley William, Bloxwich
 Cater Henry, victualler, Vauxhall
 Cooper Thomas, farmer, Bescote
 Challenor John, portmantua lock maker, Pleck
 Colston —, saddle-tree maker, Stafford-street

D.

Dudley Sarah, glass warehouse, High-street
 Devey Thomas, bridle bitt maker, George-street
 Dickenson Thomas, butcher, Digbeth
 Darwall Charles H. attorney, Bridge-street
 Davis John, baker, Ablewell-street
 Duignan John, schoolmaster, Church-street
 Dixon Samuel, painter, Birmingham-street
 Devey Edward and Henry, coach bitt makers, Bloxwich
 Dace Charles, victualler, Bloxwich
 Dace Robert, tinned bitt maker, Bloxwich
 Day Joseph, Locksmith and buckle presser, Stafford-street
 Dixon Thomas, book-keeper, Windmill

E.

Eld John, draper, High-street
 Eyland John, spoon, buckle, chape and lock-maker, George-street
 Edwards Thomas, blacksmith, Park-street
 Emery William, taylor, High-street
 Elwell William, sadlers' ironmonger, Bridge-street
 Eyland Moses, spectacle manufacturer, Rushall-street
 Eglinton and Sons, stone masons, Bank-street
 Elton John, victualler, New-street
 Evans William, supervisor, Church-street
 Evans James, army and steel spur-maker, Hill-street
 Eagles Wid. victualler, Hill-street
 Elwell Edward, surgeon, High-street
 Elwell Samuel, iron warehouse, Park-street
 Elwell Mary, Priory, Park-street
 Evans David, awl blade-maker, Short Heath
 Edge Mark, awl blade-maker, Wallington Heath
 Emery John, polished shaffle-maker, Blakenell Heath
 Elsmore —, toll gate keeper, Stafford-street
 Edge Samuel, awl blade-maker, Bloxwich

F.

Freeth John, grocer and chandler, High-street
 Forster Charles and Son, Bankers, High-street

Forster Charles, esq. magistrate, High-street
 Fox George, victualler, Park-street
 Forster George, currier, Park-street
 Forster and Ficfield, coal dealers, Wharf, Park-street
 Fletcher Richard, George Hotel Posting House, Traveller's
 Inn and Coach Office, Digbeth
 Foster William, Butcher, Rushall-street
 Fletcher Samuel, Bridge-street
 Fletcher and Sharratt, merchants, saddlers' ironmongers,
 warehouse, Bridge-street, late in George-street
 Fletcher William, book keeper, Rushall-street
 Fallows John, shoe-maker, Rushall-street
 Franklin William, currier, Ablewell-street
 Franklin Richard, shoe-maker, Ablewell-street
 Fletcher Samuel, saddlers' ironmonger, Dudley-street
 Fenton Thomas, plater, New-street
 Fletcher Samuel, farmer, Harden
 Farmer Thomas, plater, Stafford-street
 Faulkner Clement, miller, Birchills
 Foster Aaron, farmer, Parks
 Fletcher Stephen, polished steel bit-maker, Bloxwich
 Fowler Thomas, grocer and ironmonger, Townsend

G.

Greatrex Sarah and Son, platers, George-street
 Gent Joseph, Watch-maker, High-street
 Green William, coach brass founder and plater, Ablewell-
 street
 Groom John, horse-breaker, Digbeth
 Green William, victualler, Hall Lane
 Glover James, hinge-maker, New-street
 Gould John, spur-maker, New-street
 Grove Thomas, Rev. Birmingham road
 Goodwin Amos, bit-maker, Broadstone
 Green Richard, bit-maker, Bloxwich
 Green Thomas, bit-maker, Bloxwich
 Goodwin Moses, steel bit-maker, Bloxwich
 Garner William, joiner, Bloxwich
 Goodwin James, bricklayer, Bloxwich
 Green John, weaver, Short Heath

Griffin John, farmer, Short Heath
 Gough David, victualler, Wolverhampton road
 Groves John, brush-maker, Stafford-street
 Groves Mrs. Sarah, sett-maker, Birchills
 Green Edward, best polished steel bit-maker, Birchills
 Goodwin Thomas, best polished stirrup-maker, Birchills
 Griffin Joseph, lime master, Hollshill Lane
 Gee James, agent to the Worcester Fire-Office, and also
 landlord's agent for the collection of rents, Bank-
 street
 Green Joseph, stock and hat buckle-maker, New-street
 Groves James, maltster, Windmill
 Green Richard, Windmill
 Giles Joseph, stirrup-maker, Windmill
 Groves John, Stafford-street
 Green John, schoolmaster, Chapel, Bloxwich
 Guest Samuel, buckle-maker, New-street
 Green Elizabeth, plater, Windmill-street
 Giles William, stirrup-maker, Windmill-street

H.

Hill Ann, grocer, currier and wire warehouse, High-street
 Hallsworth Edward, rope-maker, flax dresser, and twine
 spinner, George-street
 Horton Thomas, barber, High-street
 Haskew Barnard, joiner and carpenter, High-street
 Hichel William, draper and hosier, Digbeth
 Holmes Joseph, barber, Park-street
 Highway Isaac, baker, Park-street
 Hume Thomas, coach harness plater, Marsh Lane
 Hall Charles, brush-maker, Park-street
 Harrison James, stirrup-maker, Idle Alley, Park-street
 Hawkins Samuel, grocer and flour dealer, Park-street
 Heeley Henrietta, Post Office, Digbeth
 Hobbins James, H. saddlers' ironmonger, Digbeth
 Hobbins Elizabeth, pawnbroker, Digbeth
 Hathaway Edward, grocer and Chandler, High-street
 Haddon John, shoe-maker, Rushall-street
 Harris John, stay-maker, Rushall-street
 Holman Thomas, saddle-tree-maker, Rushall-street

Hinton Elizabeth, mantua-maker, Bridge-street
 Holloway William, skinner, Rushall-street
 Hardiman Mrs. victualler, Rushall-street
 Haden Joseph, tanner, Rushall-street
 Heeley John, attorney, Ablewell-street
 Hackney John, attorney's writer, Rushall-street
 Hawley William, blacksmith, Rushall-street Shop, Bridge-
 street
 Handy Sarah, huckster, Rushall-street
 Hill William, shoe-maker, Rushall-street
 Hodgkins Richard, huckster, Peal-street
 Highway William, confectioner, Peal-street
 Howlett John, shoe-maker, Peal-street
 Hildick Mary, grocer and draper, Peal-street
 Holt Oliver, chimney-sweeper, Dudley-street
 Heynes William, coach and bridle bit-maker, bottom of
 Cox's Court
 Heath James, huckster, Hall lane
 Hicken Mary, huckster, New-street
 Hateley Joseph, polished curb-maker, New-street
 Halfpenny John, grocer and druggist, New-street
 Hart William, baker, New-street
 Hall Thomas, currier, New-street
 Hulse Stephen, tutania and pewter spoon-maker, New-
 street
 Howell Joseph, factor, Birmingham-street
 Hart William, buckle and cabinet key-maker, Birming-
 ham road
 Harrison Lester, bridle bit-maker, Birmingham road
 Hubball Stephen, whip thong-maker, King-street
 Hughes and Newton, saddlers' ironmongers, Park-street,
 inventors and manufacturers of new driving spring
 hooks
 Hicken Joseph, plater, Rushall-street
 Heath William, plater, Broadstone
 Heath Thomas, bit-maker, Broadstone
 Horton Walter, farmer, Bloxwich
 Harrison William, farmer, Bloxwich
 Hardman James, coach bit maker, Bloxwich
 Harrison Joseph, farmer, Little Bloxwich
 Hawkins Thomas, farmer, Little Bloxwich
 Hough William, stirrup-maker, Little Bloxwich
 Hildick Francis, farmer, Colepool
 Hildick Robert, edge tool maker, Colepool

Hope James, best polished steel bit and snaffle maker,
Harden

Harris William, polished stirrup maker, Blakenell Heath

Hawkins Elias, farmer, Shaver's End

Hawkins John, farmer, Shelfield

Harrison John, farmer, Shelfield

Harrison John, farmer, Shelfield

Harrison Thomas, oatmealman, Shelfield

Hodgkins, John, victualler, Boathouse, Catshill

Harrison John, farmer, Walsall Wood

Holmes Joseph, black chain maker, Walsall Wood

Hands Joseph, spring stirrup maker, Wolverhampton road

Hands Benjamin, spring stirrup maker, Town's End

Holden Thomas, coach harness maker, Town's End

Hardman Joseph, sett-maker Birchills

Hathaway Nathaniel, victualler, Three Crowns, near Barr
Beacon

Holder John, Black Boy, Field Gate

Higgins Thomas, sheriff's officer, Windmill

Harvey Samuel, plater, Windmill

Huskinson William, dog chain maker, Doveridge

Harvey Matthew, plater, Windmill

Hardman James, coach bit maker, Bloxwich

J.

James and Payton, factors, High-street, Digbeth

Jenns Joseph, coach iron founder, coach furniture, and
harness plater, Hall lane

Jarvis Lucy, flour warehouse, Park-street

Jewsbury Richard, higgler, Park-street

James Richard, factor, Park-street

Jackson Richard, hosier and jersey comber, Digbeth

Johnson Joseph, collar-maker, Rushall-street

Jennings John, shoe-maker, Rushall-street

James Thomas, spoon, lock, hinge and buckle maker,
Ablewell-street

Jackson Sarah, victualler, Ablewell-street

Jennings Edward, bridle bit and snaffle maker, Peal-
street

Jackson Edward W, brandy merchant, New-street

James Charles, victualler and patten ring manufacturer,
 opposite Free School
 Jennings John, common polished bit maker, Bloxwich
 Jackson William, maltster, Colepool
 Joy Thomas, spring stirrup maker, Birchills
 Jesson Richard, attorney, Spring Field
 James Charles, victualler, Church-street
 Jones Edward, victualler, Windmill
 Jones Whitmore, miller, New Mills
 Jones Edward, victualler and plater, Windmill-street
 Jobbit William, plater, Whitehall
 James and Stubbs, Birchills Colliery

K.

Knight Richard, plater, Whitehall
 Kendall Henry, gardener, Rushall-street
 Kendall Samuel, blacksmith, Bloxwich
 Kates Thomas, common bit maker, Bloxwich
 Keeling James, farmer, Shelfield
 Keyte William, pump-maker, Wolverhampton road
 Kendrick Phineas, bridle cutter and engraver, Windmill

L.

Lea James, draper, High-street
 Lucas Henry, grocer, High-street
 Langley William, maltster, Rushall-street
 Lycetts Miss, Park-street
 Lycett Henry, victualler, Park-street
 Lucas James, victualler, Digbeth
 Lowe Hannah, cheese dealer, Rushall-street
 London Thomas, saddler and harness maker, Rushall-street
 Leicester Edward, butcher, Rushall-street
 Littler Joseph, shoe-maker, Birch's yard, Rushall-street
 Lock James, hatter, Rushall-street
 Longmore Stephen, plumber and glazier, Dudley-street
 Lee Richard, victualler, Church-street

Longmore John, sexton, Hill-street
 Lea John, victualler, Rushall-street
 Lander Richard, bradoon-maker, Bloxwich
 Lawrence William, ladies' polished stirrup maker, Short
 Heath
 Lawrence Thomas, locksmith, Short Heath
 Lander William, common bit maker, Marsh lane
 Lowe Richard, stirrup-maker, Windmill
 Lowe Thomas, blacksmith, Pleck
 Leak Thomas, plater, Doveridge

M.

Mountfort Benjamin, grocer, High-street
 Mills Richard, shoe warehouse and hosier, High-street
 Mace John, hair-dresser, George-street
 Middlemore Robert, victualler, Digbeth
 Meeson Thomas, baker, Park-street
 Meeson Thomas, taylor, Park-street
 Marklew Isaac, attorney, Park-street
 Marlow Henry, iron warehouse, Park-street
 Mullinder William, grocer and druggist, Digbeth
 Mills William, martingale hook maker, Square
 Matthews Mary, flax dresser, rope maker and twine spinner,
 High-street
 Mountfort Thomas, confectioner, High-street
 Milward Frederick, printer and stationer, High-street
 Meeson Samuel, jobbing smith, Rushall-street
 Mold William, factor, Rushall-street
 Meek Thomas, shoe-maker, Rushall-street
 Mallaber William, victualler, Rushall-street
 Male Thomas, victualler and brush-maker, Rushall-street
 Middleton Joseph, victualler, Royal Oak, Rushall-street
 Mold Thomas, carpenter, Ablewell-street
 Matthews William, pawnbroker, Rushall-street
 Mason William, town cryer, Little Hill
 Mills John, victualler, Dudley-street
 Marshall and Weatherhead, factors and saddlers' iron-
 mongers, Dudley-street
 Martin Mary, Dudley-street
 Marsh Edward, snaffle and mouthing bitt maker, New-
 street

Middleton Priscilla, huckster and baker, New-street
 Mayo Thomas, victualler, New-street
 Meeson Bridget, butcher, New-street
 Mason William, gardener, Crooked Alley
 Mason Samuel, deputy constable for the parish of Walsall,
 and jail keeper, opposite the Wheat Sheaf, Birmingham
 Road

Marlow John, leather dealer, Bank-street

Mason Thomas, school and drawing master, and delineator
 of the view of Walsall prefixed to this history

Mason Mrs. ladies' academy, New-street

Morris —, Hall lane

Mayo John, victualler, Bloxwich

Marshall Thomas, blacksmith, Bloxwich

Moss John, victualler and maltster, Bloxwich

Moss James, butcher, Short Heath

Marshall Thomas, snaffle-maker, Short Heath

Mason Joseph, common polished snaffle maker, Marsh Lane

Mason Samuel, book-keeper, Town's End

Mayo Thomas, plater, (journeyman,) Wolverhampton Road

Mayo Thomas, plater, Stafford-street

Marlow Daniel, plater, Windmill

Marlow Joseph, factor, Windmill

Marlow Benjamin, bitt-maker, Windmill

Moore Samuel, grocer, Bloxwich

Mason Joseph, brass coach harness maker, New-street

Mason Thomas, buckle maker, Caldmoor

N.

Newton Thomas, buckle stamper, Adams's Row

Nickols Jeremy, spring, and best stirrup, curricula bar and
 handle manufacturer, Mash lane

Needham Thomas, victualler and taylor, Digbeth

Nicholls William, factor, Rushall-street

Nock Edward, joiner and cabinet maker, Rushall-street

Nickols Seth, bridle-bitt maker, Ablewell-street

Nock Elizabeth, broker, Rushall-street

Nevill William, builder, Dudley-street

Nicholls John, grazier, New-street

Nayler Matthew, baker, Rushall-street

Nicholls Joseph, awl-blade maker, Short Heath
 Newton Thomas, factor, Wolverhampton Road
 Nicklin William, plater, Town's End
 Norris John, common snaffle maker, Birchills
 Nock Thomas, common snaffle maker, Birchills

O.

O'Neal Robert, victualler, and peruke maker, Rushall-
 street
 Osborne John, polished curb maker, Wood's-court, New-
 street
 Osborne John, currier, Hill-street
 Oerton Thomas, gentlemen's academy, Doveridge

P.

Pearce Thomas, Hill-street, agent to the Birmingham Fire
 and Life Insurance, and Annuity Offices.
 Pratt Philip, The Rev. vicarage
 Proffit Joseph, butcher, High-street
 Perks Samuel, iron founder and factor, Adams's Row
 Parker Thomas, gardener, Pig lane, Park-street
 Payton James, factor, Park-street
 Pool Andrew, patent steel spring and plain stirrup manu-
 facturer, Digbeth
 Parker Edward, gardener, Digbeth
 Pemberton Thomas, butcher, High-street
 Plant Elizabeth, huckster, Rushall-street
 Pitman James, fellmonger, Park-street
 Padgett Thomas, victualler, Rushall-street
 Parker Thomas, victualler, Rushall-street
 Parnell John, surgeon, Ablewell-street
 Penn James, wine and brandy merchant, Rushall-street
 Pemberton Joseph, butcher, Rushall-street
 Proffit Humphrey, butcher, High-street
 Pitt Thomas, surgeon, Peal-street
 Parker Joseph, locksmith, New-street
 Potts John, breeches-maker, Birmingham Road
 Parker William, file maker and plater, Ablewell-street
 Pratt William, wine and brandy merchant, High-street

Pratt —, miller, Steam Engine, erected for grinding corn, 1812; situate at the first navigation bridge on the road from Walsall to Bloxwich

Pitt Thomas, awl blade maker, Bloxwich

Parker Thomas, butcher, Bloxwich

Partridge Thomas, awl blade maker, Short Heath

Persehouse John, farmer, Short Heath

Perry —, tinned stirrup maker, Short Heath

Proud Thomas, snaffle-maker, Blakenell Heath

Palmer William, curb-maker, Town's End

Perks and Newton, factors, Stafford-street

Pitt Henry, bitt-maker, Birchills

Porter William, victualler and spur-buckle maker, Tulbrook Road, or Little London. — Horse and gig to hire

Price Thomas, coal and iron master, Bescott

Padgett Joseph, farmer, Pleck

Partridge John, shoe-maker, Bloxwich

Peat Mrs. buckle-maker, Doveridge

Q.

Quinton Henry, farmer, Yell Fields Hall

R.

Reynolds Archibald, shoe-maker, High-street

Rock Thomas, locksmith, George-street

Rogers William, baker, Digbeth

Russell Mary, curb-maker, Park-street

Rooker John, cooper, High-street

Rutter Richard, grocer and druggist, High-street

Reynolds Joseph, chain and dog chain manufacturer, Foster's-court, Rushall-street

Reynolds James, brush-maker, Rushall-street

Reynolds William, grocer, Rushall-street

Reynolds and Co. bone and ivory brush manufacturers, turners and toy makers, Rushall-street

Roberts Thomas, carpenter, Rushall-street

Roper William, peruke-maker, Rushall-street

Russell Jacob, curb, military over-all chain, dog couple and
 greyhound starters maker, Ablewell-street
 Rooker Joseph, cooper, Rushall-street
 Rostill Charles, shoe-maker, Peal-street
 Rogers James, butcher, Dudley-street
 Ross Thomas, awl blade maker, Bloxwich
 Ray John, higgler, Short Heath
 Roberts John, tinned bitt maker, Blakenell Heath
 Robinson J. shoe-maker, Blakenell Heath
 Robathan George, best polished snaffle and bradoon maker,
 Blakenell Heath
 Riley Joseph, farmer, Pepper Alley
 Rowley Thomas, factor, Stafford-street
 Ross Edward, plater, Birchills
 Reynolds Charles, New-street, Field Gate
 Rogers John, gent. Windmill
 Rock Joseph, factor, Windmill
 Rock Benjamin, farmer, Caldmoor
 Ross Patrick, awl blade maker, Whitehall

S

Slaney James, book-keeper, Freeth's Yard
 Spurrier Joseph, attorney, George-street; a master in
 Chancery
 Stanley Richard, coach and gig bridle bitt maker, Adams's
 Row
 Shaw Thomas, baker, Digbeth
 Stubbs and Co. bankers, Digbeth
 Stubbs John, saddlers' ironmonger, Digbeth
 Smith William, fishmonger, Digbeth
 Sheldon John, victualler, Park-street
 Smith Joseph, victualler, Park-street
 Smith John, victualler, Park-street
 Stanley Edward, coach bitt maker, Park-street
 Stanley Thomas, plater, Park-street
 Sharratt Samuel, Park-street
 Sleigh William, hat-maker, Digbeth
 Smallwood Joseph, shoe and ladies' Devonshire stirrup
 maker, Digbeth

- Smith Mary, stay-maker, Digbeth
 Shorters William, grocer, High-street
 Sedgwick Henry, sett maker, Wide Yard, Rushall-street
 Spurrier Thomas, gent. Bridge-street
 Smith Joseph, victualler, Rushall-street
 Seavill John, excise office, Rushall-street
 Sanders William, bricklayer, Rushall-street
 Smith Thomas, currier, Rushall-street
 Shutt William, maltster, Ablewell-street
 Scott Mrs. Mary, wine merchant, Ablewell-street
 Smallwood Joseph, ladies' stirrup maker, Ablewell-street
 Stubbs Joseph, attorney, (town clerk,) Rushall-street
 Smith Simon, tailor, Rushall-street
 Smith John, stocking-weaver, Rushall-street
 Stanton John, butcher, Rushall-street
 Shevyn Matthew, woolcomber, Little Hill
 Smith William, huckster, Dudley-street
 Stone Joseph, umbrella and parasol maker, Dudley-street
 Stringer William, spring saddle bar and martingale hook
 maker, Old Meeting yard, Dudley-street
 Stanton William, spur buckle maker, Dudley-street
 Stoddard —, tailor, New-street
 Smith Thomas, sett roller buckle maker, New-street
 Smith John, clerk at St. Matthew's Church, Church-street,
 where are kept the keys of the engine
 Sansome John, victualler, Church-street
 Stevens Samuel, stay-maker, Gorton's Yard
 Sheldon Ann, mantua-maker, Gorton's Yard
 Smith James, brass harness and buckle maker in general,
 Birmingham-street
 Spurrier and Wootton, saddlers' ironmongers, King-street
 Stokes Joseph, plater, Bloxwich
 Smith William, bit-maker, Bloxwich
 Stanley I. B. farmer, Bloxwich
 Somerfield Matthew, ironmonger, Bloxwich
 Stokes John, farmer, Bloxwich
 Stokes William, Bloxwich, Walsall, and Birmingham car-
 rier, Bloxwich
 Stokes Joseph, polished coach bit maker, Bloxwich
 Stokes John, grocer, Bloxwich
 Stanley Edward, farmer, Bloxwich
 Smith Samuel, farmer, Bloxwich
 Somerfield John, awl-blade maker, Bloxwich
 Stokes Thomas, coach bit maker, Bloxwich

Stanley John, common polished bradoon maker, Short Heath

Somerfield Titus, awl-blade maker, Short Heath

Sargeant Joseph, set-maker, Short Heath

Stokes William, tinned stirrup maker, Short Heath

Sargeant Edward, set-maker, Short Heath

Sargeant John, set-maker, Short Heath

Shenton John, farmer, Gorscote

Sheldon Thomas, bit-maker, Blakenell Heath

Stokes John, victualler, Horse and Jockey, Walsall Wood

Stokes Charles, coach bit maker, Stafford-street

Stringer Thomas, spring saddle-bar maker, Stafford-street

Stanley William, bit-maker, Stafford-street

Sillitoe Aaron, packing box maker, Lime Pit Bank

Scholey Christopher, farmer, Gillot de greaves

Slater John, farmer, Birmingham road

Stringer Thomas, spring bar maker, Fubbrook road

Spink Robert, farmer, Pleck

Small Mrs. victualler, Pleck

Somerfield Jacob, awl-blade and collar makers' needles,

&c. manufacturer, Bloxwich

Somerfield Thomas, grocer, &c. Bloxwich

T.

Taylor John, plumber, glazier, and painter, High-street

Taylor Thomas, shoe-maker, Digbeth

Thurstan John, saddler, Digbeth

Thomas John, baker, Digbeth

Taylor Joseph, saddlers' ironmonger, Park-street

Thornhill Samuel, victualler, Park-street

Taylor Abraham, tong-maker, Square

Tomlinson William, Rushall-street

Thompson Joseph, blacksmith, Rushall-street

Tonks Samuel, victualler, Rushall-street

Thacker James, gardener and seedsman, Rushall-street

Thacker William, plater, Rushall-street

Taylor Joseph, taylor, Rushall-street

Titley William, draper, Rushall-street

Taylor John, broker, Peal-street

Tomlinson Thomas, victualler, Dudley-street

Thompson John, barber, Dudley-street
 Thompson John, huckster, church-street
 Timbrell John, victualler and maltster, Church-street
 Timbrell Charles, iron warehouse, Church-street
 Turnor Thomas, farmer, Bloxwich
 Thomas John, gardener, Bloxwich
 Townsend Edward, rope-maker, Bloxwich
 Taylor Thomas, best polished steel bit maker, Short Heath
 Taylor Thomas, locksmith
 Taylor Richard, snaffle-maker, Wallington Heath
 Taylor Thomas, bit-maker, Wallington Heath
 Taylor William, butcher, Shelfield
 Turnor Robert, victualler, Four Crosses, Shelfield
 Tuckley Joseph, locksmith, Birchills
 Turnor William, farmer, Birchills
 Taylor Daniel, curb-maker, Birchills
 Tudman John, farmer, Wood End
 Timmins Glazier, plumber, glazier, and painter, New-street
 Thomas William, plater, Windmill

U.

Unitt Wid. victualler, Digbeth
 Unitt Joseph, builder, Park-street
 Unitt Richard, bridle tong inaker, Square
 Unitt James, grocer, druggist, and chandler, Rushall-street

V.

Vickers John, Castle Inn, High-street
 Valentine and Throsby, stationers, High-street

W.

Wilcox Susan, brazier, tinmiah, and dealer in rags, High-street

Worrad Joseph, fishmonger, High-street
 White William, clock and watch maker, High-street
 Wilkinson William, black buckle and chape maker, in
 general, Pig lane
 Whitehouse Joseph, victualler, Park-street
 Windle Charles, factor, Park-street
 Windle Charles, esq. magistrate, Park-street
 Wilson Thomas, victualler, Park-street
 Whitney Robert, carpenter, Park-street
 Whitehouse Joseph, jun. victualler, Park-street
 Wilson Samuel, attorney, Park-street
 Woodford Mrs. ladies' school, Bridge-street
 Windsor William, patten tie and bridle cutter, Digbeth
 Webster John, rim lock maker, Dog Yard, Digbeth
 Wakeman James, victualler, High-street
 Wilson Mary, basket-maker, High-street
 Westley Charles, loop and slide manufacturer for braces
 and gaiters, Wide Yard, Rushall-street
 Wood John, factor, Bridge-street
 Wells Thomas, caster, Rushall-street
 Wilson George, bone turner, Rushall-street
 Williams John, polished curb, and martingale ring maker,
 Oatshill lane, Rushall-street
 Wood William, victualler and maltster, Ablewell-street
 Wright Joseph, victualler, Ablewell-street
 Woollat Edward, victualler, Excise Office, Rushall-street
 Woollat Joseph, surgeon, Rushall-street
 Webster Benjamin, tin curb and chain maker, Old Meeting
 Yard
 Weatherhead Thomas, Dudley-street
 Weaver Francis, surgeon, Dudley-street
 Wilcox Thomas, plater, New-street
 Wiggin Benjamin, victualler, bridle cutter, and coach
 harness maker, Church-street
 Westley John, victualler, King-street
 Womsley Rev. —, Bridge-street
 Woolman —, organist, High-street
 Whateley Clement John, esq. Birchills Hall
 Welch William, grocer, &c. Bloxwich
 Wootton James, tinned bit maker, Bloxwich
 Wood John, awl-blade maker, Short Heath
 White Solomon, taylor, Short Heath
 Walker James, shoe-maker, Short Heath

Wilkes Joseph, locksmith, Short Heath
 Wilkes John, locksmith, Short Heath
 Wood Thomas, stirrup-maker, Short Heath
 Walker John, higgler, Wallington Heath
 Wood David, awl-blade maker, Blakenell Heath
 Wootton I. tinned sharps and pelhams maker, Blakenell Heath
 Wood Samuel, victualler, Fox, also collector of the King's taxes for the Foreign of Walsall
 Whitehouse John, curb-maker, Birchills
 Wright Edward, bridle cutter and musical instrument seller, Lime Pit Bank
 Whitehall Thomas, saddle-bar maker, Lime Pit Bank.
 Wood Samuel, maltster, Lime Pit Bank
 Wood Samuel, jun. maltster and brick maker, Wood End road
 Wainright Henry, farmer, Wood End road
 Watson Mrs. Birmingham road
 Wiggin Joseph, farmer, Windmill-street
 Worsey Charles, farmer, Windmill
 Webster John, dog chain maker, Fulbrook road
 Webster George, dog chain maker, Fulbrook road
 Wilcox John, Doveridge, Fulbrook road
 Wilcox Richard, polished snaffle and bradoon maker, Doveridge
 Worrallo Joseph, bridle buckle plater, Doveridge
 Wilkes Samuel, cabinet locksmith, &c. Short Heath, Bloxwich
 Walker Mrs. farmer, Little Bloxwich
 Williams Joseph, polished snaffle maker, Broadstone

Y.

Yates Francis, grocer and druggist, High-street
 Yates Thomas, awl-blade maker, Bloxwich
 Yates Richard, awl-blade maker, Harden
 Yates Joseph, tin stirrup maker, Walsall Wood
 Yeomans Edward, buckle-maker, Caldmoor

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF THE

PRINCIPAL TRADES, &c.

WITH THE

Names of Persons

EXERCISING THEM RESPECTIVELY.

Awl Blade Makers.

Evans David
Edge Mark
Edge Samuel
Nicholls Joseph
Pitt Thomas
Partridge Thomas
Ross Thomas
Ross Patrick

Somerfield John
Somerfield Titus
Somerfield Jacob
Wood John
Wood David
Yates Thomas
Yates Richard

Buckle Makers.

Adams John
Adams Thomas
Birch Samuel
Barnett Samuel, (roller)
Birch Henry, (roller)
Barnett Samuel, (roller)
Collier Wm. (roller)
Cowleys Jos. and Thos.
Cotterell Thomas
Eyland John
Green Joseph

Guest Samuel
Hart Wm.
James Thomas
Mason Thomas
Peat Mrs.
Porter William
Stanton William
Smith Thomas, (roller)
Smith James
Wilkinson Wm.
Yeomans Edward

Bradpoon Makers.

Birch Samuel
Lander Richard
Robathan George

Stanley John
Wilcox Richard

Bridle Bitt Makers.

Butler John
Barratt John
Busst John
Bagnall Joseph, (patent)
Clarke Charles

Devey Thomas
Heynes Wm.
Harrison Lester
Jennings Edward
Nickols Seth

Bitt Makers.

Arm Thomas
Carrington George
Cooper Joseph
Chapman Joseph
Clarke John
Dace Robert
Fletcher Stephen
Goodwin Amos
Green Richard
Green Thomas
Goodwin Moses
Green Edward
Heath Thomas
Hope James

Jennings John
Kates Thomas
Lander William
Marsh Edward
Marlow Benjamin
Pitt Henry
Roberts John
Smith William
Sheldon Thomas
Stanley William
Taylor Thomas
Taylor Thomas
Wootton James

Bone and Ivory Turners.

Brown Thomas
Reynolds and Co.

Wilson George

Brush Makers.

Groves John
Hall Charles

Reynolds James

Brass Coach Founders.

Barber Henry
Cowleys Jos. and Thos.

Green William

Bridle Cutters.

Brace Henry
Windsor William

Wiggin Benjamin
Wright Edward

Bridle and Harness Tongue Maker.

Blakemore James

Curb Makers.

Barnet Samuel
Cooper Henry
Hateley Joseph
Osborne John
Palmer William
Russell Mary

Russell Jacob

Taylor Daniel

Williams John

Webster Benjamin

Whitehouse John

Curriers.

Barber and Son
Forster George
Franklin William
Hill Samuel

Hall Thomas

Osborne John

Smith Thomas

Coach Bitt Makers.

Brookes Humphrey
Brookes William
Devey Edward and Henry
Heynes William
Hardman James

Stanley Richard

Stanley Edward

Stokes Thomas

Stokes Joseph

Stokes Charles

Coach Harness Makers.

Holden Thomas
Mason Joseph

Smith James

Wiggin Benjamin

Coach Iron Founder.

Jeans Joseph

Dog Chain Makers.

Butler Samuel

Brown John

Reynolds Joseph

Webster John

Webster George

Factors.

Adams John and Sons

Adams John

Adams and Bagley

Badger and James

Howell Joseph

James and Payton

James Richard

Mold William

Marshall and Weatherhead

Marlow Joseph

Nicholls William

Newton Thomas

Perks Samuel

Payton James

Perks and Newton

Rowley Thomas

Rock Joseph

Windle Charles

Wood John

Locksmiths.

Appleby Humphrey

Beech Charles

Beech Joseph

Beech William

Bullock John

Banks John

Bird Moses, (patent)

Colbourn Walter

Day Joseph

Lawrence Thomas

Parker Joseph

Rock Thomas

Taylor Thomas

Tuckley Joseph

Wilkes Joseph

Wilkes John

Wilkes Samuel

Platers.

Aston Richard

Bates Thomas

Brodhurst and Greatrex

Bagnall William

Beebe John

Cowleys Jos. and Thos.

BANKERS,

With the Houses they draw upon in London.

**Charles Forster and Co.—On Spooner and Co.
Stubbs and Co.—On Spooner and Co.**

James OF THE MAGISTRATES AND OTHER OFFICERS.

James Adams, Esq. Mayor.

N. G. Clarke, Esq. Brown's Green, Recorder.

**Charles Forster, Esq. Digbeth, Magistrate, and an Alderman
of the Corporation.**

**Charles Windle, Esq. Park-street, Magistrate, and an
Alderman of the corporation.**

Samuel Wilson, Esq. Magistrate

Joseph Stubbs, Esq. Town Clerk.

**Joseph Curtis, jun. Bank-street, High Constable for the
Hundred of Offlow, South.**

Thomas Higgins, Windmill, near Walsall, Sheriff's Officer.

**Samuel Mason, Birmingham-street, Keeper of the Jail
for the Borough and Foreign of Walsall.**

MASTERS IN CHANCERY.

Mr. John Heeley, { also a commissioner to take affi-
davits in King's Bench, Common
pleas, Court of Exchequer, &c.

Charles H. Darwall,

Mr. Isaac Marklew,

Joseph Stubbs,

Samuel Wilson.

An Arrangement

OF THE DIFFERENT

MAILS, FROM THE POST-OFFICE,

WALSALL.

1813.

MANCHESTER MAIL.

EVERY morning at half-past ten o'clock; which takes all letters for Willenhall, Wolverhampton, Stafford, Stone, and Newcastle; Cheshire, Lancashire, Scotland, Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Yorkshire, Carnarvonshire, Flintshire, Denbighshire and Shropshire.

The same mail at twelve o'clock, which forwards letters to Peterborough and Thrapston, in Northamptonshire; Tomsford, Potton, and Biggleswade, in Bedfordshire; Wokingham, and Maidenhead in Berkshire; Alresford, Gosport, Basingstoke, Fareham, Havant, and Petersfield, in Hampshire; Hindon, Mere, and Great Bedwin, in Wiltshire; Surrey, Kent, Suffolk, Essex, Sussex, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Corfe Castle, in Dorsetshire; Middlesex, except Uxbridge, on Saturdays;—as also Henley-in-Arden, Stratford-on-Avon, and Warwick; all Oxfordshire, Abingdon, Farringdon, Wallingford, Wantage, and Lambourne, in Berkshire; Cricklade, Swindon, Malmesbury, Highworth, and Wootton Bassett, in Wiltshire; Campden, Bourton-on-the-Water, Stow, and Moiton-in-Marsh, in Gloucestershire; Shipstone, in Worcestershire; High Wycombe; and Beaconsfield, in Bucks;—by the Coventry mail from Birmingham, which takes all letters to that city and its delivery, Nuneaton, Coleshill, Rugby, and Southam, in Warwickshire; Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Woodburn, Dunstable, Bedford Silsoe, and

Leighton Buzzard, in Bedfordshire; St. Albans, Berkhemstead, Gaddesden, Hemel Hempsted, King's Langley, Tring, Watford, and Barnet in Herefordshire; Leicester, Hinckley, and Lutterworth, in Leicestershire.

BRISTOL MAIL

FROM BIRMINGHAM,

Which takes all letters for the intermediate places; Worcestershire, (except Shipstone and those parts sent by the Bewdley mail,) Gloucestershire, (except Campden, Stow, Bourton-on-the-Water, and Morton-in-Marsh,) South Wales, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire; Ludlow, and Bishop's Castle, in Shropshire; Hungerford and Newbury, in Berkshire; Somersetshire, Wiltshire, (except those parts which go by way of Oxford and London,) Dorsetshire, (except Corfe Castle,) Devonshire, Cornwall, and South West parts of Ireland, and Hampshire, (except those places sent by way of London.)

WALSALL MAIL,

FROM THE NEW INN, PARK-STREET,

Every evening at half past three o'clock, which takes all letters for Birmingham and its delivery: this mail arrives every day at two o'clock, with letters for the town and its delivery.—Overcharges allowed from nine in the morning to half past ten in the forenoon, and from four to eight in the evening.

AN

ACCOUNT OF THE VARIOUS COACHES,

With their Departures and Arrivals.

From the New Inn, Park-street.

Perks's coach, every morning, (except Sundays) at nine o'clock, to Birmingham, and returns the same day from Birmingham, during the summer season at six o'clock, and during the winter season at five o'clock, in the evening; this is a very useful coach to the respective towns of Birmingham and Walsall, for the conveyance of passengers and parcels.

A LIST OF THE WAGGONS, &c.

Adams's Birmingham waggon from his warehouse, Rushall-street, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, to his warehouse, Steelhouse-Lane, Birmingham, where goods are forwarded to London, Bristol, and all parts of the Kingdom.

Adams's cart at ten o'clock the same days, for Birmingham, &c. waggon and cart return in the evening of the same days.

Adams's waggon for Wolverhampton daily, and forwards goods to Manchester, Liverpool, and all parts of the kingdom.

Twiss's waggon, from Joseph Middleton's, Royal Oak Inn, every Tuesday and Saturday mornings, for Birmingham, where goods are forwarded from his warehouse, Dale-End to all parts of the kingdom; returns every Saturday and Wednesday evenings, and loads for Stafford, Stone, Newcastle, and all parts of the North.

Ling's Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Durham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and all parts of the North, from his warehouse, Henry Lycett's, Golden Cup, Park-street, every Sunday and Thursday night, returns every Tuesday and Saturday morning, for Birmingham and all parts of the kingdom.

Solloway carrier loads at Henry Lycett's, Golden Cup, Park-street, for Lichfield and all parts of the North.

Richard Harris, carrier, loads at Henry Lycett's, Golden Cup, Park-street, for Wolverhampton, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Ashmore, loads at Henry Lycett's, Golden Cup, every Tuesday for Sheffield.

Hodson takes in parcels at the sign of the Bird in Hand, Park-street, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, for Bilston,

Stokes, Bloxwich and Birmingham carrier, through Walsall every Saturday morning, to the sign of the Ship and Rainbow, in Birmingham.

Goold, takes in parcels at the Distill, in Digbeth, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, for Wolverhampton.

Boddington, one horse cart, loads at his house, in New-street, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, for Birmingham.

CANAL CONVEYANCE.

Adams's and Bickley's boats load at the wharf, at the top of Park-street, every Wednesday, to all parts of the kingdom.

Crowley and Hicklin load at the wharf to all parts of the kingdom.

Miscellaneous Articles.

FORMS OF THE APPOINTMENT

CHURCHWARDENS,

*Which takes place in the Vestry of the Parish Church of
Walsall annually, on Easter Tuesday.*

FOR THE BOROUGH.

We the Vicar, and Inhabitants of the town or borough of Walsall, according to ancient custom, being legally in vestry assembled, do elect and make choice of Churchwardens residing within the said town or borough, for the parish of Walsall aforesaid, for the year ensuing, (that is to say) the Vicar maketh choice of William Kendrick, to be one of the said Churchwardens, and the Inhabitants of the said town or borough make choice of Richard James, the younger, to be the other Churchwarden, residing in the said town or borough, for the year ensuing. In witness whereof we the Vicar and Inhabitants so assembled as aforesaid have hereunto subscribed our names this fifth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-three,

Robert Felton, *Vicar*, Robert Thornhill,

Matthew Beale, Charles Vaull,

John Scott, William Fenton,

Thomas Huxley, John Mold,

Samuel Livesay, Henry Nicholls,

Joseph Barber, John Palmer,

Robert Onions, John Heeley.

FOR THE FOREIGN.

We the Vicar of Walsall and Inhabitants of the Foreign of Walsall aforesaid, according to ancient custom, being legally in vestry assembled, do elect and make choice of Churchwardens residing within the said foreign of Walsall, for the year ensuing, (that is to say,) the Vicar maketh choice of William Green, of the Windmill, to be one of the said Churchwardens, and the Inhabitants of the said foreign of Walsall, make choice of Charles Thornhill, to be the other Churchwarden, residing in the said foreign, for the year ensuing. In witness whereof we the Vicar and Inhabitants assembled as aforesaid, have hereunto subscribed our names this fifth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and sixty three.

Robert Felton, *Vicar*,

Moses Yeomans,

Ezra Meeson,

George Thornhill,

Richard Hollinsed.

Witness,

Jonathan Kendrick,

Wm. Watson.

FORM OF THE APPOINTMENT

OF THE RESPECTIVE

OFFICERS

AT THE COURT LEET.

Walsall Borough }
and Foreign. } To wit. The view of frank pledge
 with the Court Baron of the Right Hon. Orlando
 Lord Bradford, Lord of the manor of Walsall aforesaid,
 there holden the 31st day of October, 1812, before
 Joseph Stubbs, steward.

Borough Homage.

John Eld,	Joseph Cowley,
John V. Barber,	Samuel Fletcher,
Richard Rutter,	William Nevill,
William Pratt,	Thomas Carter,
Thomas James,	Thomas Pearce,
Joseph Haden,	William Langley,
John Smith,	John Thurstan.

We present Thomas Pearce to serve the office
 of constable, for the township of the said borough, for
 the year ensuing.

We present Henry Lucas, William Hichel, George
 Fox, William Wilkinson, James Unitt, Thomas
 Padgett, James Thacker, Charles Brunt, Richard
 Green, Joseph Wright, John Ferrington, William
 Glover, James Thomas, Samuel Mason, Thomas Mason,

and William Mason, to serve the office of deputy constables, for the said township for the year ensuing.

We present Thomas Tomlinson and James Brodhurst, to serve the office of clerks of the market for the said township, for the year ensuing.

We present Thomas Nock Pemberton, and Thomas Owen, to serve the office of flesh tasters for the said township, for the year ensuing.

We present, elect, and choose William Mason, common pinner for the said township, at the said borough, for the year ensuing.

We pain and amerse all persons that owe *suit* and *service* to the lord of this manor, and who have neglected this day to do suit and service at this court, each four-pence.

Affered at this court by

John Eld,

John V. Barber.

John Eld,

Joseph Cowley,

John V. Barber,

Samuel Fletcher,

Richard Rutter,

William Nevill,

William Pratt,

Thomas Carter,

Thomas James,

Thomas Pearce,

Joseph Haden,

William Langley,

John Smith,

John Thurstan.

The officers for the township of the Foreign are appointed at the same time, previous to the appoint-

ment the various officers are invited to dine with the steward of the court, the expense of which is paid by the lord of the manor.

31st Oct. 1812,

WALSALL PATROLE
FOREIGN.

James Goodwin, *Constable,*

Deputies.

Samuel Smith, of Great Bloxwich

James Wootton, of ditto

William Burton, of the Parks

William Giles, of the Windmill

John Wigley, of Walsall Wood

James Keeling, of ditto

James Smith, Lime Pit Bank

John Whitehouse, Birchills

John Holland, Little Bloxwich

Isaac Newton, Stafford-street

Joseph Hand, ditto

Thomas Proud, Blakenell

Joseph Nicholls, Short Heath

David Evens, ditto

Richard Taylor, Wallington Heath

James Hope, Harden

William Collier, Great Bloxwich, pinner

Robert Turner, Walsall Wood, pinner

It was found necessary in the winter of 1811, to establish a patrol, particulars of divisions, &c. as follow:—in each division a watch house was opened for the convenience of the patrol, and the expence of providing firing, lanthorns, rattles, staves, &c. was defrayed by the constable, out of the poor rates, and hand bills were circulated for the information of the inhabitants, of which the following is a copy.

WALSALL PATROLE

FOR THE

PROTECTION OF PROPERTY,

1811.

1st. HIGH-STREET DIVISION.

To the Bottom of Digbeth, including Adams's Row, and round Mr. Jenns's House, and Mr. Stubbs's Bank, and return again to the Top of High-street.

Messrs. B. Barber.	Messrs. Joseph Proffit.
H. Cox.	Joseph Jenns.
Joseph Cotterell.	William Emery.
Joseph Curzon.	William Smith.
Francis Yates.	Michael Hill.
Thomas Needham.	William Hichel.
Andrew Pool.	H. Proffit.
William Rogers.	Edward Parker.
Thomas Shaw.	Thomas Parker.
Joseph Worrad.	

2d. PARK-STREET DIVISION,

From the Bridge in Park-street to the Top of the said Street, returning as far as Mr. Darwall's, in Bridge-street.

Messrs. John Sheldon.

Messrs. John Smith.

Samuel Hawkins.

James Unitt.

T. Wilson.

W. Coldfield.

James Payton.

3d. RUSHALL-STREET DIVISION,

From Mrs. Cooper's, Hare and Hounds, to the Bottom of Rushall-street, returning to the Top of the said Street.

Messrs. W. Forster.

Messrs. James Unitt.

James Reynolds.

Joseph Taylor.

Samuel Tonks.

Isaac Lowe.

Joseph Woollatt.

John Stanton.

Daniel Turner.

Francis Thacker.

Thomas Padgett.

T. Adams.

Josiah Meeson.

J. V. Barber.

W. Bagnall, jun.

G. B. Stubbs.

Samuel Johnson.

Thomas Adams.

Simon Smith.

Though a constable is not bound to any precise time for this kind of watch, nor punishable if he omit it, barely for the omission, if he be ready upon occasion to do his office when required in these cases; yet it is in his power to hold such watches as often as he pleases, and it is convenient and justifiable; and herein the watchmen are the ministers and assistants of the constable, and are under the same protection with him, and may act as he does. 2 H. H. 97.

There is a third kind of watch, which is by authority of the justices of the peace; which also may be held at other times than those appointed by the 13 Ed. I.: and the watch thus appointed has the same power as either of the former: and this seems to be within the power of any one justice, by the first assignment in the commission; but the safer and more usual way, is by order of sessions. *Lamb. 186. 2 H. H. 97. Dalt. c. 104.*

It seems agreed, that every inhabitant is bound to keep watch in his turn, or to find another. 2 Haw. 80.

And the watching and warding ought to be by men able of body, and sufficiently weaponed. *Dalt. c. 104.*

A watchman has a double protection of the law: 1. As an assistant to the constable, when the constable is present or in the watch; and so every man assisting the constable in the execution of his office, has the same protection that the law gives the constable. 2,

Purely as a watchman, set by order of law; and the law takes notice of his authority *sub. en. nomine*; and therefore killing of a watchman in the execution of his office, is murder. 2 *H. H.* 98. 3 *Inst.* 52. 3 *Co.* 66.

If a watchman should be killed in endeavouring to apprehend a burglar, his executors shall be entitled to 40*l.* reward. 5 *Ann.* 31. s. 2.

If any person shall refuse to watch in his turn, at the commandment of the constable, he may present the default at the assizes or sessions, or complain thereof to any justice, who may bind the offender to the good behaviour, and so over to the next sessions. *Dalt. c.* 104; and there he may be indicted. 2 *Haw.* 80.

THOMAS PEARCE,

Constable.

BOROUGH OF WALSALL

COURT LEET.

At the Court Leet of the Right Honourable Orlando, Lord Bradford, Lord of the Manor of Walsall, there holden, the 27th Day of October, 1806, before Thomas Hodgkins, Steward:—

It was presented and ordered, by the jurors, that for the advantage of the public, in general, and the

better managements of the market, no person whatsoever shall expose to sale any wares, merchandise, pigs, poultry, or provisions of any kind, in the foot paths of the High-street of this town; and that the clerks of the market, with the assistance of the constables, be desired to carry this resolution into effect; and that whatever person or persons are found transgressing the aforesaid resolutions, be fined in the sum of Ten Shillings and Six-pence.

Resolved, that any tradesman working at his usual occupation, or butchers suffering their blocks to stand in the public paths, will be fined in the sum of Ten Shillings and Six-pence.

The jurors also directed, that the above presentment and Resolutions be printed and distributed, that no person may plead ignorance, for the purpose of avoiding an indictment and penalties, which will be incurred, by a breach of the above stated resolutions.

November 3rd. 1806.

COURT LEET.

At the Court Leet of the Right Honourable William, Lord Brough, Lord of the Manor of Walsall, there being, the 25th Day of October, 1806, before Thomas Brough, Esq. and

It was presented and ordered, by the Justices, that for the advantage of the public in general, and the

THE OPINION OF
Mr. WILLIAM MOTT,
 TAKEN AT THE JOINT EXPENCE OF THE CHURCHWARDENS
 OF THE
BOROUGH AND FOREIGN
 OF
WALSALL,

As to the Customary Charges of the respective Townships.
 MAY 14, 1803.

CASE.

The parish of Walsall consists of what is called the Borough of Walsall, and the Foreign of Walsall; and the church of Walsall is the parish church.

The custom of choosing churchwardens is for the vicar and Borough, each to choose one, within the limits of, and to act for the Borough; and for the vicar and Foreign, each, to choose one, within the limits of, and to act for the Foreign, which four are the churchwardens for the parish of Walsall.

The churchwardens of the Borough, seem to have the chief management of the repairs of the church, and to have paid the bills, and all other incidental charges relating to the office of churchwardens within the parish, and to have given an account of the whole expences to the parish at large; and the Borough has been rated for half such expences and paid them, and

the Foreign has been rated and paid the other half, by their own Foreign churchwardens, except in some instances they have objected to items which have been allowed.

There is a chapel of ease at Bloxwich, which is in the Foreign, but there is no chapelwarden elected or sworn for the chapelry, the Foreign churchwardens generally act as chapelwardens of Bloxwich, and keep it in repair out of their own rates.

The Sacrament bread and wine used at Bloxwich chapel, and sparrows heads paid for by the Foreign officers, have been allowed in the churchwardens accounts as part of the disbursements of the parish at large.

The Foreign officers object to charges in the parish account, for ornaments of their parish church of Walsall and other incidental expences of the churchwardens in their office, under the idea, that they are exempt from and not liable to such payments, as having a chapel of ease of their own to maintain, and that the Borough alone ought to be at such Charges.

Thus far upon perusing the parish book and other papers seems to be the statement for consideration.

OPINION.

My opinion is, that as the inhabitants of the Foreign are parishioners of Walsall, as well as the inhabitants

of the Borough, that they are equally liable to contribute to all the charges of repairing the church, the bells, ornaments, and all other incidental expences, proper to be allowed churchwardens in the execution of their office, and that the objection of the Foreign inhabitants to contribute thereto is not well founded.

I think the Sacrament bread and wine used at the chapel at Bloxwich, and sparrows heads, and such like parochial expences of the Foreign churchwardens, should be brought into the general churchwardens' accounts for Walsall, as a part of the incidental charges to which the whole parish is liable, for if the bread and wine was not used by the parishioners in Bloxwich chapel, more would be used in Walsall church, and which would then be brought into that account.

As to the repairs of the chapel of Bloxwich those must be borne by the inhabitants of the chapelry independent of any thing they are liable to pay to the mother church, as it is merely a chapel of ease for the inhabitants, and where that is so, (unless there is some special custom to the contrary) the inhabitants within such a chapelry must pay for the convenience of having such a chapel.

Therefore as there seems to be a custom (which may be a good one) for the Foreign churchwardens to raise and pay half the amount of the expenditure (with a few exceptions to particular items which I do not think were well founded) I advise them to con-

tinue to pay such half in future, (bringing the bread and Sacrament wine used at Bloxwich, and the sparrows heads, and any other incidental expences as above-mentioned into the Walsall accounts) and not to insist upon any exemption, on account of ornaments, ringing, or such like expences as are proper to be allowed churchwardens in the execution of their office, as I do not think such exemption can be supported in this case.

If the custom should be disputed, and on a trial at law, prove a bad custom, the consequence must be, that one general equal rate must be made on all the parishioners, and all occupiers of houses and lands throughout the whole parish, and collected by all the churchwardens.

WILLIAM NEVILL, }
JOHN EYLAND, } Borough churchwardens.

JOSEPH CURTIS, }
JOSEPH DAY, } Foreign Churchwardens.

(COPY).

ENDOWMENT OF WALSALL VICARAGE,

Dated 1248.

Walsall. } *Appropriatio ejusdem Ecclesiæ & Ordinatio*
} *Vicariæ per Rogerum Cov. & Lich. Episcopum.*

Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos præsens scriptum
pervenit Rogerus Dei gratia Coventrensis & Lich-

Lichfeldensis Episcopus, & Ricardus Thesaurarius Lich. Salutem in domino sempiternam, Noverit universitas vestra, quod cum, Henricus, Dei gratia Rex Anglorum illustris abbati & conventui de Hales, præmonstratensis ordinis, quorum Ecclesiam pater ejus fundaverat patronatum Ecclesie de Waleshale contulisset; optans quod Ecclesie fructus in usus cederent eorundem; idem Abbas & Conventus ordinationi nostra se supposuerunt quoad Ecclesiam antedictam & pertinentias ejus quæ in eorum literis patentibus, super confectis plenius continentur Nos egituro domini Regis affectum pium in domino commendantes; desiderantes etiam profectum dictorum religiosorum, qui bus propter Confluentiam hospitum, ut dicitur, propriæ non suppetunt facultates divinæ caritates intuitu, & nob ejusdem dicti domini Regis reverentiam & adejus instantiam, de consensu Capituli Lichfeldensis Ordinando decresimus, quod cum Magister Vincentius Rector Ecclesie de Waleshale ipsi cesserit, vel decesserit dicti abbas & Conventus, dictam Ecclesiam de Waleshale habeant, cum pertinentiis; & fructibus ejus in usus proprios convertendo, salvâ tamen Vicariâ tresdecem Marcarum assignandarum Vicario, per viros fidelis & discretos ad hoc per Episcopum deputatos, in certis obventionibus Ecclesie; qui etiam arcam & ædificia Ecclesie dividant inter prædictos religiosos & Vicarium, secundum quod ratione præviâ viderint expedire.

Vicarius autem, qui pro tempore fuerit, onera Episcopalia & Archidiaconalia consueta & debita sustinebit ad onera vero Capellarum Ecclesie de Waleshale consueta; scilicet de Wodnesburi & de Rushale & servicia sibi debita Sustinenda habeat idem Vicarius præter tresdecem marcas sibi secundum quod dictum est, superius assignandas omnes obventiones Capillarum earundem, præter garbas Quæ

quidē obventionēs si ad servicia & onera in prædictis Capellis, informā præmissa sustinenda non sufficiant, in aliis ejusdem Ecclesiæ proventibus, una cum eisdem obventionibus per viros suprascriptos dicto vicario provideatur; undē in prænominatis Capellis eadem servicia & onera honestē. Valeat sustinere Aliā verd onera Abbas & Vicarius simul pro suis portionibus sustinebunt: Salvo etiam quod Abbas & Conventus sæpediti singulis annis Solvant Ecclesiæ Lichfeldensi sex marcas quod ad petitionem dictorum Abbatis & Conventus duximus ordinandum, ad eorum perpetuam pacem super Ecclesiā Sæperdictā, in quāse dicebat aliquando Lichfeldensis Ecclesia jus habere, de dictis autem sex marcis, sexaginta solidos deputavimus ad sustentationem operis Ecclesiæ Lichfeldensis; Residuos vero * * s Vicarius qui ad missam beatæ Virginis, Vicissim per Annum, secundū, quod moris est fuerint deputati per Capellanum beatæ Virginis ipsis dicta pecunia tribuenda; cui dum viginti solidi solvi debent; Sexaginta vero solidi ipsi qui ad custodiam fabricæ fuerit deputatus terminis infrascriptis ita scil, quod tres marcæ solvantur apud Lich. in festo sancti Michaelis; tres verd residuæ in festo resurrectionis dominicæ persolvantur. Jurabit etiam dictus abbas de Hales qui pro tempore fuerit, se dictas sex marcas dictis terminis fideliter solituum: Non licebit autem decano & Capitulo Lich. in alios usus, quā supradictos, convertere pecuniam memoratam. In præmissorum autem testimonium & munimen, præsentem paginam sigillis nostris & sigillis Decani & Capituli Lichfeldensis & Abbatis & Conventus de Hales, in consensus sui testimonium, fecimus roborari; salvo Conventrens & Lichfeldensis Ecclesiæ jure pontificali & parochiali, actum apud Lich. in Crastino beati Thomæ Martyris Anno Domini millesimo, ducentessimo quadragesimo octavo.

 TRANSLATION

OF THE

ENDOWMENT OF WALSALL VICARAGE,

 Dated 1248.

*The Appropriation of the said Church and the
 Walsall. } settling of the Vicarage, by Roger, Bishop of
 Coventry and Lichfield.*

TO ALL the faithful in Christ to whom this present writing shall come, ROGER, by the Grace of God, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and Richard, Treasurer of Lichfield, eternal health in the Lord, KNOW ALL OF YOU, that when Henry by the Grace of God, the illustrious King of England, gave to the Abbot and Convent of Halesowen, the patronage of the Church of Walsall, (whose Father had founded the Church of the aforeshewn order; wishing that the Fruits of the Church should be yielded to the use of the aforesaid, the same Abbot and Convent have given themselves up to our decree with regard to the aforesaid Church and its appurtenances) which is more fully set forth in their Letters Patent above made. WE THEREFORE, approving the pious disposition in the Lord of our Lord the King, desiring also the advancement of the said religious Persons, to whom on account of the conflux of Strangers, as it is reported, sufficient opportunity is not afforded at being present at the divine *Hymns*, and out of reverence of the same Lord the King, and at his desire, and with the consent of the Chapter of

Lichfield, we have decreed, that when the Master Vincent, the Rector of the Church of Walsall shall have given up or yielded to him, the said Abbot and Convent, may have the said Church of Walsall with its appurtenances and fruits, to convert them to their proper use; to the vicarage being reserved thirty Marks, to be paid to the Vicar by faithful and discreet Persons, deputed by the Bishop for this purpose from certain Income of the Church, who shall also divide the Area and the Buildings of the Church between the aforesaid religious persons and the Vicar, as they in their consideration may think fit. BUT THE VICAR for the time being shall pay the accustomed burthens and dues to the Bishop and the Archdeacon. But for the support of the accustomed burdens and services due to them from the Chapels of the Church of Walsall, to wit, of Wednesbury and Rushall, the same Vicar shall have over and above the Thirty Marks above given to him, all the revenues of the above Chapels, except the Sheaves of Corn, which revenues, if they shall not be sufficient to bear the service and burdens of the aforesaid Chapels, according to the aforeshewn form, the Vicar shall be provided by the above written Men from other Income of the Church, together with those revenues from whence he may be able honestly to bear the same burdens and services in the above named Chapels. But the said Abbot and Vicar shall bear the other burdens according to their respective proportions. Provided, nevertheless, the Abbot and Convent so mentioned shall pay annually to the Church at Lichfield, Six Marks, which we have decreed at the petition of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent, for their peaceable possession of the aforesaid Church, over which the Church of Lichfield sometimes claimed a right out of the aforesaid Six Marks, we have decreed sixty shillings for the

support of the repairs of the Church of Lichfield, the remainder to the twenty Vicars, who are deputed alternately, every year, according as the custom is, to celebrate the Mass of the blessed Virgin, the above mentioned Money to be given to them by the Chaplain of the blessed Virgin, to whom the twenty shillings ought then to be paid; but the sixty shillings to him who is deputed to take care of the Fabric, at the under written periods, so that three Marks be paid at Lichfield upon the Feast of Saint Michael, and the three remaining upon the Feast of the annunciation of our Lord. The above mentioned Abbot of Halesowen (for the time being) shall swear that he will faithfully pay the aforesaid Six Marks at the above written periods. But it shall not be lawful for the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield to convert the said Money to any other than the above mentioned use. IN WITNESS to and for the confirmation of these Presents and Premises, we have given effect to these Pages by our Seals and by the Seals of the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield and Coventry, and of the Abbot and Convent of Halesowen. In testimony of their assent, be it however reserved to the Church of Coventry and Lichfield the pontifical and parochial authority done at Lichfield, the day after the blessed Thomas the Martyr, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Two Hundred and Forty-eight.

The present vicar, the Rev. P. Pratt, succeeded to the vicarage in the year 1796, as stated in page 39; a preacher whose discourses are delivered in a dignified, yet unaffected, style; and from their piety and eloquence are calculated to have the desirable tendency of reclaiming the vicious, and strengthening the christian hearer in his faith.

EXPENSE OF THE POOR,

Copied from the Parish Books for Walsall Borough.

Mr. Thomas Roper and Mr. Samuel Pearson,
Overseers, 1686.

	£.	s.	d.
Paid by Mr. Roper, 25 weeks ..	41	16	5
Paid by Mr. Pearson, 25 weeks ..	41	6	9
Paid for by charges, Mr. Roper ..	6	18	9
Paid for by ditto, Mr. Pearson ..	7	10	8

97 12 7

Total leveys 95 12 2

Received of Mr. Turnpenny 4 0 0

Ditto of Mr. Warren & Benj. Gorton .. 1 13 8

101 5 10

Not received in the leveys 0 7 2

In other charges 0 6 1

Paid John Ball & Simon Bibb, which
balances the account 3 0 0

The accounts of Mr. Thos. Spurrier, Mr. Thos. Burrowes, Mr. James Biggs, and Mr. Wm. Elwell, Overseers of the poor, for the year 1742.

	£.	s.	d.
Received by leveys.. .. .	350	0	8½
Disburst	338	17	2½
Upon balance	11	3	6½
Mr. William Mold and Mr. Francis Yates, Overseers of the Poor of the township of the borough of Walsall; collected upon 15 poor rates, at 8d. in the pound, from Easter, 1809, to Easter, 1810, being 55 weeks	£1975	19	8½
Collected by Messrs. Thos. Spurrier, James Biggs, and Wm. Elwell, in 1742	350	0	8½
Difference in poor rates in 68 years, (viz.) from 1742 to 1810.. .. .	1625	18	11½

*An Entrey of all the Provision for the Workhouse, from
the 12th to the 19th of April, exclusive, 1733.*

EXTRACTED FROM THE PARISH BOOK.

	£.	s.	d.
1 Side of pork, wt. 39lb.	0	7	5
1 Leg of veal, wt. 9lb.	0	1	3
28lb. of rice	0	5	4
6lb. of shugar, at 3½d.	0	1	9
7 Doz. of household bread	0	7	0
5 Cheeses	0	9	8
2lb. of butter	0	0	78½
2 Pecks and quartter of wheat flower	0	1	6
Salt, 1 peck and 1lb.	0	1	0
Oatmeal, 1 peck and 3 quartters	0	1	3
3lb. of candles	0	1	3
1 Strike of malt	0	3	2
For hops and barm, and for brewing	0	1	1
Milk	0	2	4
	<hr/>		
	2	4	3½

PRICE OF PROVISIONS, 1812:

	£.	s.	d.
Malt, per bushel.	0	14	0
Wheat, ditto	1	3	0
Oatmeal, ditto	0	13	0
Beef, mutton and veal, per lb.	0	0	8
Coals, per ton	0	12	6

VESTRY BOOK.

Messrs. Samuel Pearson and Henry Halloway's
accounpts, being Churchwardens for the years 1690
and 1691, given up the 14th day of October.

	£.	s.	d.
The disbursements for both years amount			
to, for the borough and foreign	80	18	3
Received towards this	80	15	9
Remaining due to us Sam. Pearson and H. Halloway	0	2	6

POPULATION

OF THE

BOROUGH & FOREIGN OF WALSALL.

*Population of the Borough of Walsall, taken from the
Returns under an Act of Parliament.*

MAY, 1801.

Inhabited houses ..	1043		
Uninhabited do. ..	135	Total of houses ..	1178
Males	2500		
Females	2677	Total of persons ..	5177

MAY, 1811.

Inhabited houses	..	1131	
Uninhabited do.	..	19	Total of houses .. 1150
Males	..	2686	
Females	..	2855	Total of persons .. 5541

Increased population 364

Increase of inhabited houses 88

Diminution in total of houses 28

Poor in workhouse, May, 1801.. .. . 197

Ditto, May, 1811.. .. . 46

*Population of the Foreign of Walsall, taken from the
Returns under an Act of Parliament.*

MAY, 1801.

Inhabited houses	..	941	
Uninhabited do.	..	50	Total of houses .. 991
Males	..	2774	
Females	..	2448	Total of persons .. 5222

MAY, 1811.

Inhabited houses	..	1060	
Uninhabited do.	..	35	Total of houses .. 1095
Males	..	3009	
Females	..	2639	Total of persons .. 5648

Increased population 426

Population of the borough of Walsall ..	5541
- Ditto of the foreign of ditto ..	5648

11,189

Baptisms in the Parish Church of Walsall, for the following Years:—

		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>
1801	....	123	....	110
1802	....	139	....	141
1803	....	191	....	157
1804	....	152	....	179
1805	....	143	....	145
1806	....	161	....	152
1807	....	170	....	145
1808	....	146	....	166
1809	....	162	....	151
1810	....	153	....	124
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		1540		1470
		<hr/>		<hr/>

Total baptisms 3010

Burials in the Parish Church of Walsall, for the following Years:—

		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>
1801	....	163	....	154
1802	....	117	....	113

Burials continued.

		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females</i>
1803	....	113	....	103
1804	....	78	....	72
1805	....	99	....	125
1806	....	74	....	63
1807	....	65	....	91
1808	....	85	....	75
1809	....	103	....	101
1810	....	129	....	119
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		1026		1021
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total burials		2047		

WALSALL

VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION.

A handsome subscription was entered into by the town, to defray the expense of raising a corps of cavalry and another of infantry, and a meeting took place at the Guildhall, as follows. It may be remarked that the alacrity with which these associations were completed, forms an interesting and important feature in the loyalty of the place:—

May the 12th, 1798. Walsall Loyal Volunteer Association.—At a meeting held this day in the Guildhall,

JOSEPH SCOTT, Esq. in the Chair.

The chairman communicated a letter from the Marquis of Stafford, that his Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept the offer of service of the Walsall Loyal Volunteer Cavalry.—The following is a copy addressed to Joseph Scott, Esq.

Bath, May the 8th, 1798.

Sir,

I received, this morning, a letter from Mr. Secretary Dundas, the following is the paragraph relating to Walsall:—

(Copy.)

“ My Lord,

“ The proposals from the town of Walsall to form a troop of Cavalry, free of expence to government, have been layed before the King, and I am commanded to express the satisfaction with which his Majesty has received this proof of the zeal and public spirit of the persons who have offered their services in the present critical situation of the country.

“ try, and I am desired to signify his Majesty’s
 “ gracious acceptance of their offer.

“ I am your Lordship’s, &c.

(Signed) “ H. DUNDAS.”

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

STAFFORD.



*Names of Officers and Gentlemen of the Walsall Loyal
 Volunteer Association.*

29th of June, 1798.

Joseph Scott, esq. *Captain,*

James Adams, esq. *1st Lieut.*

J. V. Barber, esq. *2nd Lieut.*

T. O. Chinner, esq. *Cornet,*

John Hemming, esq. *Adjutant.*

Joseph Elliot

Benjamin Willets

James Penn

William Mayne

John Eld

John Adams

H. Adams

William Moore

John Batte

Joseph Mountfort

John M. Badger

Thomas Scott

William Osborne

George Strongitharm

Samuel Kent Parson

Thomas James Parson

Samuel Perks

John Brindley

Samuel Fletcher	James Bate
William Bagley	Moses Taylor
George Coleman	William Davis
Joseph Bealey Stanley	T. N. Pemberton
Joseph Middleton	Edward Banton
Wm. Gilbert Wood	Benjamin Whitehouse
Joseph Round	James Gunn
Thomas Adams, jun.	Richard Rutter
Robert Shenton	Joseph Rock
John Wood	Charles Perks

*Presentation of the Standard Colours to the associated
Corps of Cavalry and Infantry.*

On Monday morning, the 23rd of September, 1799, the presentation of the cavalry standard took place, at Barr Beacon, about three miles from Walsall. The assemblage of company to witness this ceremony was elegant and numerous—the morning was fine, and the scene was interesting and impressive. The standard was consecrated by the Rev. John Darwall, Chaplain to the Walsall Loyal Volunteer Cavalry; and the address and prayer (here copied) was delivered in the most solemn and energetic style. The standard was presented to Captain Scott, by Mrs. W. Adams, of Walsall, as proxy for Lady Scott, assisted by Captain Scott's children, who, on this occasion, made a reply to the address which pourtrayed the feelings of a man with the best interests of his country at heart.

THE FOLLOWING

ADDRESS AND PRAYER,

OFFERED UPON THE

CONSECRATION OF THEIR STANDARD,

On Monday the 23rd of September, 1799,

ARE RESPECTFULLY PRESENTED TO THE GENTLEMEN

OF THE

WALSALL LOYAL VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,

BY THEIR CHAPLAIN,

AND MOST OBEIENT SERVANT,

J. DARWALL.

Gentlemen,

The occasion so highly honourable to yourselves, which now calls upon me to address you, must prove to every sensible and loyal Briton an additional cause of satisfaction in his country, not only as increasing its strength, but also as affording a further mark of that national spirit of unanimity, which has so universally displayed itself.

GENTLEMEN, too much honour cannot be ascribed to those independent gentlemen in general, who have given vigour to these measures for public security by taking the command in their persons, or by patriotic contributions from their property; and among these instances, no one can be found more truly respectable and munificent, than that gentleman, to whose generosity and exertion, our corps chiefly owes its existence. Circumstances forbid me to speak to this particular, with the precision and the

warmth my inclination would dictate; but it is evident that every considerate man ought to look to him with gratitude, and I am sure the heart of every individual in our corps must beat towards him with the most sincere and perfect esteem,

GENTLEMEN, it will be obvious to you, that union of sentiment in a people, is the only secure basis of civilized government, and that nothing can tend so effectually to create a general esteem for the salutary restraints of order, founded in the laws of justice, or a greater veneration for our established government from whence such laws proceed, as that sanction thus given by gentlemen, alike situated, and with connections and influence similar to your own. Under these sentiments that zeal and spirit which has induced you to unite together in the determined resolution of protecting your king and country, your religion and laws, against the daring attacks of foreign enemies, or the pernicious encroachments of internal ones, must also impress your minds with a grateful consciousness, that you are discharging a duty highly honourable to yourselves and useful to your neighbours, and nobly presenting to future times an example, which remotest posterity may justly admire, and warmly emulate. Regarding, as you must, a just government and a pure religion, the fruits of honest industry and the possessions of lawful inheritance, as the divine gifts of Omnipotence, vigilance to preserve, and activity to defend such blessings, you will deem a part of your duty to that God, by whose gracious bounty, in the order of his Providence, they have been bestowed upon you.

GENTLEMEN, amidst the arduous contest we have so long had with an enemy whom no ties of justice can bind,

whom no fear of a Supreme Being can awe, it must afford satisfaction to every good man to have observed, that on the part of our countrymen, no brilliant success has been obtained, without the return of humble and grateful acknowledgments to the Eternal God of Heaven. This must afford satisfaction as proving, that neither the arts of insidious persuasion, difficulties, nor dangers, could make Englishmen disown the existence of a superintending Providence, nor the spirit of military glory efface from their minds, the Faith and the Hope of christians.

And it must be a reflection further pleasing, that the veneration of a God still continues among us to excite those virtues which must promote public unanimity and success, and inspire those social affections which so much contribute to the comfort and enjoyment of private life.

You, Gentlemen, I trust have devoted yourselves to the service of your country, under the influence of those principles which spring from a firm belief in the truths of christianity, and must naturally attach themselves to all those, who are practiced in the offices of that pure system of religion established in this kingdom.

In these sentiments I have no doubt, but that you will earnestly and devoutly join in prayer, wherein we now proceed to dedicate this banner to our God.

PRAYER.

O ETERNAL God of heaven and earth, by whose almighty wisdom, all things are conducted, and to whose controul all human events are subject; who dost govern

the hearts of men, and knit them together in the union of social love, or for their wickedness permittest them to rage with fatal fury against each other; we acknowledge thy wisdom and goodness in all thy dispensations, and humbly implore that thy grace may ever go before us, so that our inclinations, desires, and actions, may be pleasing in thy sight. Grant, that in the obedience of thee, and the service and protection of each other, we may be always of one mind and one judgment: Let the sight of this banner, which we now with sincere humility dedicate to thee, ever call to our minds the value of that holy religion and happy government, which in thy benignant providence thou hast permitted to be established among us: And if at any time it should be thy will, that we should be called to the contest of danger in defence of thy gracious gifts, grant, "that in thy name, we may set up our banners," and fight with faith and courage to protect all these blessings which thou hast bestowed upon us. And we further implore thy grace to enable us to acknowledge every instance of success with gratitude to thee, or, submissive to thy almighty wisdom, to bear every disastrous event with religious fortitude.

All this we ask in thy name, and through the merits of Jesus Christ, thy Son, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, as we are taught in thy revealed word, we ascribe, as to one God, everlasting praise and glory. Amen.

In 1802, on the dissolution of the Association, the members of the Walsall Volunteer Cavalry, in consideration of the handsome and spirited conduct of their captain during their association, presented him with a silver cup, of the value of fifty guineas.

At the same time and place the infantry colours were consecrated by the Rev. — Kipling, lecturer of Walsall, and presented to Richard Jesson, esq. captain, by Miss Leigh, a daughter of the Rev. W. Leigh's, of Ashbourne Hall, in the county of Derby, accompanied by an appropriate address, to which, Captain Jesson returned a suitable reply.

Richard Jesson, Esq. <i>Captain</i> ,	} Officers.*
William Adie, Esq. <i>Lieutenant</i> ,	
Richard James, Esq. <i>Ensign</i> .	

After the ceremony, the corporation of Walsall, fully sensible of the zeal manifested by the neighbouring gentlemen and their fellow-townsmen, with a liberality that reflects the highest credit, provided a dinner at the George Inn, of this town, of which the neighbouring clergy, gentry, and associated corps partook,—the late William Adams, esq. mayor, presided. The dinner† was excellent, and consisted of the choicest articles the season afforded; a band of music increased the pleasure of the entertainment, several good songs enlivened the happy moments, and the company spent the evening in the highest state of hilarity.

* The names of the gentlemen of the infantry would have been given, but from their number being too great for insertion.

† The dinner and entertainment cost the corporation upwards of one hundred guineas.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

The inhabitants of Walsall have been as forward in displaying their zeal for the cause of Christianity, as they have been loyal in their *voluntary* devotion to the service of the state, in times of exigence and danger. From sentiments like these the Bible Society was formed in the year 1812, and its founders have justly concurred with their fellow countrymen, in thinking that the dissemination of the Sacred Scriptures is the surest way of spreading the advantages of our Holy Religion. In this valuable undertaking, there has been a rare and almost unexceptionable union of the numerous sects, into which the Christian Hierarchy is divided: different religious parties, forgetting their own separate interests, have joined in the promulgation of those truths, which form the basis of the religion of all; and the cause of personal morality has been considered as best subserved by the inculcation of appropriate principles, only to be found in their purity in the Bible. From the liberality of its supporters, the Walsall Bible Society is in a flourishing state;* and to perpetuate its utility against any fluctuation of circumstances, a considerable sum remaining in the hands of the treasurer, has been laid apart as a fund, and the interest only applied to the services of the Society. It is regulated by a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and committee.

* See report printed by Mr. Milward, Walsall.

Number of Lodges, Clubs, and Benefit Societies, at Walsall.

LODGES.

Names.	Where held.	Supposed Number.	Instituted A. D.	Surgeons.	Names of the Secretaries of each Lodge, Club, &c.
Druids, and Annuity	Black Boy, New-street	about 250	1808	Mr. Woollatt	Addison Richardson
Odd Fellows, (Independent)	Bull's Head, Rushall-st.	140	1794	Woollatt	Thomas Rock
Odd Fellows, No. 12.	Wilson's, Park-street	170	1810	Weaver	John Cotterill
Loyal Britons, No. 4.	Turk's Head, Digbeth	150	1809	Weaver	Thomas Bache
Knights of the Wood, No. 4.	Timbrell's, Church-street	60 or 70	1810	Weaver	Thomas Bache
Benevolents, Union	Queen's Head, Hill-street	30 or 40	1809	Woollatt	Jerry Newman

CLUBS.

Methodists', male	Vestry, Bedlam Chapel	100	1796	Weaver	Joseph Withers
Methodists', female	Ditto, ditto	64	1796	Adams	Ditto
Old Independent	School Room, George-st.	70 or 80	1799	Weaver	John Haddon
Ditto, female	Ditto, ditto	60 or 70	1799	Woollatt	Ditto
A Friendly Society	Red Lion, Little London	50 or 60	1789	Weaver	Thomas Spink
Ditto, female	Royal Oak, Ablewell-st.	100	1781	Woollatt	James Gee
Ditto, male	Black Boy, New-street	80 or 90	1788	Weaver	Charles Westley
Ditto, female	Wheat-Sheaf	107	1800	Weaver	James Gee
Ditto, male	New Inn, Park-street	90 or 100	1804	Adams	Thomas Hoply
Ditto, male	Shakespeare, Church-street	20 or 30	1799	Woollatt	William Robinson
Ditto, male	Bull's Head	28 or 30	1766	Woollatt	Thomas Hoply

Ditto, male	Thornhill's, Park-street	20 or 30	George Moore
Ditto, male	Queen's Head, Hill-street	20 or 30	Adams
Friendly, male	Royal Oak, Ablewell-st.	1768	Adams
Amicable, male	Ditto, ditto	1772	Adams
Union, male	Ditto, ditto	1790	Parnell
Brotherly, male	Ditto, ditto	70	Parnell
Friendly Society, male	Elton's, New-street	43	Woollatt
Ditto, male	Bull's Head, Bloxwich	260	Joseph Burns
Ditto, female	Ditto, ditto		Titus Somerfield
Ditto, female	King's Arms		Adams
Ditto, male	Ditto		Adams
Ditto, male	Trooper, Harden		Adams
Ditto, male and female	King's Head, Bloxwich		Adams
Friendly female Society	Horse and Jockey	40	Pitt
			Joseph Homer

Additional Friendly Societies, known by the Name of Gift Societies.

A Gift, or permanent fund		Total No.
Ditto, ditto	Vine, Hall Lane	6 Lodges
Ditto, ditto	Turk's Head, Digbeth	19 Clubs
Ditto, ditto	Angel, Park-street	10 Gifts
Ditto, ditto	Green Man, Dudley-street	—
Ditto, ditto	Black Boy, New-street	35 Societies at Walsall
Ditto, ditto	Shakespeare, Church-street	—
Ditto, No. 2	Queen's Head, Hill-street	
Ditto, No. 1	School Room, George-st.	
Ditto, ditto	Lion, Little London	

Most of these Institutions have from 4 to 6 Trustees, but the oldest & most active are Mr. JOSEPH HADEN,
And Mr. JOHN EYLAND.

Lodges, Clubs, &c. at Walsall and Bloxwich, continued.

Names.	Where held.	Supposed Number.	Instituted A. D.	Surgeons.	Names of the Secretaries of each Lodge, Club, &c.
WALSALL.					
Amicable Society, No. 1, male	Royal Oak	223	1773	Thomas Adams.	Benj. Westley
Ditto ditto, No. 2, male	Ditto	40	1793		James Gee
Ditto ditto, male	New Inn	84	1804		Thomas Hopley
Ditto ditto, male	Angel	20	1777		George Moore
Meeting Club, female	Methodist Chapel	59	1796		James Withers
BLOXWICH.					
Amicable Society, male	King's Arms	90	1778	Thomas Adams.	James Wood
Ditto ditto, female	Ditto	50	1787		Wm. Collins
Ditto ditto, No. 1; ditto	Bull's Head	72	1785		John Green
Ditto ditto, No. 2, ditto	Ditto	40	1811		John Green
Catholic Society, male	King's Head	45	1804		Rev. J. Martyn
Ditto ditto, female	Ditto	45	1804		Rev. J. Martyn
Amicable Society, male	Trooper, (Harding)	110	1774		— Bond

It must appear obvious to every liberal and contemplative mind, that these various institutions must be productive of essential utility, not only to the respective individuals of which they are composed, but to the different parishes of which they constitute a part.—The Lodges allow 10s. 6d. per week, and a surgeon, in case of sickness, accidents, &c. and most of the Clubs from 6s. to 8s. per week, and the surgeon, exclusive of the Gifts.—Suppose a member to belong to a Life Club and Gift, his weekly pay would be from 14s. to 16s. per week; suppose he is in a Lodge and Club, about 18s. 6d. per week; and should he be in a Gift also, £1. 6s. 6d.

The number of Lodges, Clubs and Benefit Societies at Walsall, exceeds any other town in the county of Stafford.

SURVEY OF BYE ROADS.

The township of the borough of Walsall surveyed by John Lambert and John Stubbs, 1768.

From the town of Walsall to Fullbrook, from Hole End to Digberth, from the Four Crosses in Hall Lane, by New Mills, to Bescot Brook; from the Wolverhampton turnpike road, the Park Lane, to the Pleck; and from the Pleck, along the Pleck Lane, to James

Bridge; and from the bottom of Rushall-street to Mr. Pershouse's Pool; from Haine's Well, near Mr. Cooper's, to the white stump in Wood End Lane; from Haine's aforesaid, along the Peakhouse Lane to Barr Meadows; from the Town's End to Park Brook, which roads have usually been repaired by the inhabitants of the borough; and the justices of the borough and foreign of Walsall, at their Special Sessions, on the 1st day of Nov. 1768, ordered that the inhabitants of the said borough be liable to do statute work;—shall do two days work on the new district of the Walsall turnpike road yearly, the other four days to the bye roads.

The liberty of Wood End, the Town's End, and Caldmore, in the foreign of Walsall, surveyed by Richard Green and Joseph Joesberry, 1768.

From the white stump in Wood End Lane to the Gospel Tree, near the Crown, in Wood End Lane; from the Field Gate, near the chapel ground, through Caldmore, to the lane leading to Fullbrook, the Town's End Bank, and Marsh Lane, which roads have been usually repaired by the surveyors of the liberty of Wood End, the Town's End and Caldmore.

The above liberties are to do two days statute work on the old turnpike road yearly; if required, 1st Nov. 1768, and four days duty to the bye roads in the said liberties, yearly.

The liberty of Great Bloxwich, Little Bloxwich, and Harden, in the foreign of Walsall, surveyed by Robt. Hildick and Thos. Phillips, 1768.

From the Wolverhampton turnpike road, by Merry's, the Blue Lane, to Hambridge Forge Brook; from the said Merry's house, through Birchills to Powk Hill Brook, at the bottom of Reed's Wood; from the end of Park-street, Walsall, through Great Bloxwich, to Essington Wood Brook, which runs by the side of Essington Wood; from Great Bloxwich Chapel, to Barn Hales, on Essington Wood; from Bloxwich Field Gate, the Wolverhampton turnpike road, through Little Bloxwich, to a great stone in Thistly Lane, near Little Wyrley; from the Snead Brook, over Short Heath, to Clock Mill Brook, and which is the Wolverhampton turnpike road and about three quarters of a mile; from Thos. Heath's side Barr, through Harden, to Colepool Brook; from Thos. Heath's side Barr, through Leamore Lane, to Bently Brook, which roads have been usually repaired by the inhabitants living within the above liberties.

And the Justices for the borough and foreign of Walsall, at their Special Sessions, on the 1st of Nov. 1768, ordered that the inhabitants of the above liberties, liable to do statute work, shall do two days statute work on the 2nd district of the turnpike road, and one day's duty or statute work on the Wolverhampton turnpike road, and the other three days on the bye roads yearly.

The liberty of Shelfield and Walsall Wood, in the foreign of Walsall, surveyed by John Glover and John Hildick, 1768.

From King's Hays to Catsell; from Stubber's Green to the Ford Brook, at Pelsall Common; from the Sheeroaks to Shaver's End Brook; from the Four Crosses to the Cock at Walsall Wood, which roads have been usually repaired by the inhabitants of the above liberty.

The Justices for the borough and foreign of Walsall, at their Special Sessions, on the 1st of Nov. 1768, ordered that the inhabitants of the said liberty, liable to do statute work, shall do two days statute work on the new turnpike road, and the remaining four days to do statute work on the bye roads yearly.

H. W.

PERAMBULATION.*

The perambulation of the boundaries of the parish of Walsall, containing about ten thousand acres of land, is performed in three different directions in

* The parish was perambulated in the years 1779, 1800 and 1801. Dinner each year at Mr. Thomas Carless's, White Swan.

Again 1805, 1806, 1807. Dinner at Mr. Wm. Bagley's, Dragon Inn.

three successive years;—the vicar, (who previously reads prayers early in the morning) with the various officers of the two townships, perambu'ate the boundaries, and the expense is equally borne by the two townships. A dinner is provided on the occasion for the officers and the friends whom they choose to invite; and the populace who accompany the officers are treated with bread, cheese and ale, in some parts of the parish, during the perambulation.

1st PART OF THE PARISH.

Beginning at Shaver's End Brook, going eastward along the said brook next Rushall, to Stubber's Green; where it joins the parish of Aldridge; from thence to Walsall Wood, Holly Bank, and Stonnall Gate, where it joins the parish of Shenstone, to Shire Oaks and Catshill, where it joins Ogley Hay; and from Catshill to Clayanger, and down Clayanger Brook, where it joins Little Wyrley and Pelsall, to Shaver's End Brook, where the perambulation commenced.

2nd PART OF THE PARISH.

Beginning at Butt's Gate, where it joins Rushall to Holly Bush Stile, Rye Croft, Cole Pool, leaving the parish of Rushall southward, to Gorscott, Clock Mill Brook, Little Bloxwich and Fistley, adjoining Pelsall, to Hobble-end, and adjoining Little Wyrley, over Essington Wood, the Snead, and down the Snead:

Brook, leaving Bentley westward, to Park Brook and James Bridge, where it joins the parish of Darlaston.

8th PART OF THE PARISH.

Beginning at James Bridge, by the water course to Bescott Bridge, and leaving the parish of Wednesbury to the south west, to Shustock Meadow, adjoining Great Barr at the Gospel Tree at Wood End, Hayhead and Long Wood, adjoining to Cauldwell's Fields, leaving the parish of Rushall to the north east, to the Butts Gate, where the 2nd day's perambulation began.

CANALS.

An extension of the Old Birmingham Canal from Broad Water terminates at Walsall, and is the means of conveyance of merchandize to and from all parts of the kingdom;—and the coal principally used here is brought from the pits in the neighbourhood, along this canal.

WYRLEY AND ESSINGTON CANAL

Passes for a very considerable distance through this parish, and within about a mile of the town. This canal joins the Birmingham at Wolverhampton, and the Birmingham and Fazeley near Lichfield, and by this means communicates with the Grand Trunk, and most of the principal canals in the kingdom.— Large quantities of lime and lime-stone are navigated along these canals.

BURIAL GROUND,

NEAR WALSALL,

Was given by the corporation for the use of the parish, and contains about two acres of ground, walled round, and the entrance at the bottom opposite the Vicarage is handsome. There are several neat monuments, and the stone of the first person buried in this cemetery bears this inscription:—

William Burn departed this life, August the 8th, aged 56, he being the first that was buried here.

INTERESTING ACCOUNT
 OF THE
TRIAL
 OF AN
APPEAL AGAINST A POOR'S RATE,
 WHICH TOOK PLACE

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held for the Borough and Foreign of Walsall, at the Guild Hall, in the Borough of Walsall, the 10th Day of January, 1813; before James Adams, Esq. Mayor, N. G. Clarke, Esq. Recorder, Charles Forster and Samuel Wilson, Esqrs. Justices of the Peace, for the Borough and Foreign of Walsall aforesaid.

To elucidate the trial of this appeal, which took place in consequence of an attempt made by the foreign of Walsall against the borough of Walsall; to rate the inhabitants of the borough for such lands as they occupied, as resident payers to the borough, it will be necessary to state, and particularly for the information of the stranger, that the parish of Walsall consists of two townships, which are called the township of the borough of Walsall and the township of the foreign of Walsall, and that, for time immemorial, a usage has prevailed in this parish, to rate all persons for what lands they occupied to that township in which they resided; so that if a person renting land and residing in the borough, and paying the support

of the poor of the borough, removes into the foreign, still occupying the same land, he would, in like manner, contribute to the support of the poor of the foreign, and just so would it be with a person residing and occupying lands in the foreign removing into the borough.

Here I shall introduce the notice addressed by the officers of the foreign, whose names are inserted in the rate made by them, the names of sixty-four residents in the borough rating them to the foreign for the lands they occupied, and addressed the following notice to the

Overseers of the Borough of Walsall.

We hereby give you notice, not to collect or interfere in the collection of the poor's rate or assessment made on any inhabitant, or occupier of lands, houses, tithes, or other property, within or rateable to the foreign of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, such collection or interference by you, being contrary to law. Dated this 30th day of April, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twelve.

Joseph Harrison, *Churchwarden.*

John Brawn, } *Overseers of the foreign*
John Timmins, } *of Walsall.*

*To the overseers of the
Borough of Walsall,
aforesaid, to each and
every of them.*

In consequence of the above, the following was addressed by the churchwardens and overseers of the Borough.

To the Payers of Poor's Rates, resident in the Borough of Walsall.

Gentlemen,

In consequence of a notice (of which the above is a copy) from the churchwarden and overseers of the foreign of Walsall, delivered to the overseers of the Borough of Walsall, you are requested, should any demand be made by any of the above stated foreign officers, for poor rates upon you, as a resident occupier in the Borough, to refuse payment of such demand; and you are also requested to meet the churchwardens and overseers, at the Guild Hall, on Friday next, the 8th day of May inst, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to take into consideration the most effectual means of preserving those rights, which the borough has exercised for time immemorial.

C. H. Darwall, }
Samuel Sharratt. } *Churchwardens.*

Samuel Fletcher, }
Joseph Cotterell. } *Overseers.*

By order of the churchwardens and overseers,

THOMAS PEARCE,
Vestry Clerk.

Walsall Borough, May 2nd, 1812.

N. B. As the parish of Walsall, contains ten thousand acres of land, and the population of the respective townships of borough and foreign the same, it is presumed, if the inhabitants of the borough were to apply to parliament for an act to divide the parish, they would, under such act, obtain a share of five thousand acres!

Mr. Wm. Spurrier, of Birmingham, and Mr. C. H. Darwall, of Walsall, having been retained as the attornies, on behalf of the borough residents rated to the foreign, notices of appeal against the rate were given by William Foster and R. M. Fletcher, (who had been previously summoned before the magistrates for their poor rates,) as well as by other persons rated, and counsel were retained on both sides, (viz.) Mr. Reader and Mr. Pearson for the appellants, and Mr. Puller and Mr. Petitt for the respondents.

The appeals were respited from time to time to suit the convenience of the counsel, till the 16th day of January, 1813, when William Foster's appeal was tried, and lasted nine hours.

Some time was taken up in a preliminary conversation between the counsel and their application, respecting the order of proceeding, which was determined by the court to be for the leading counsel for the respondent to open his case, and the respondent's evidence to be examined; the evidence for the appellant then to be examined, after which each of the

appellant's counsel was to address the court, then each of the respondent's counsel, and the leading counsel for the appellants, to reply. This course was accordingly adopted, and Mr. Puller having opened the business, proceeded to call his witnesses.

The first witness called was John Green, the clerk of Bloxwich chapel, aged about 32 years, who took upon himself to set out a precise and distinct line of boundary between the borough and foreign, to which part of Bridge-street was thrown into the foreign ;—Green stated that he had derived his knowledge of the boundary from conversation with the late William Hodgetts, of Bloxwich, although he admitted that Hodgetts had never shewn him the boundary by going over the ground, nor was any thing on the subject ever committed to writing,—Green also admitted that he himself had never gone (what he called) the boundary till the summer of 1812; that he then went according to the verbal information he had received from Hodgetts, and for the purpose of shewing the boundary as it appeared upon a map or plan produced upon the trial by the respondents. Several other witnesses were called for the respondents, chiefly old men, and though some of them spoke to particular parts being considered the boundary, not one, except Green, pretended to describe the whole of the boundary; but they in general declared their belief that no known line of boundary existed between the borough and foreign. Green's evidence, in one particular, was expressly contradicted by the evi-

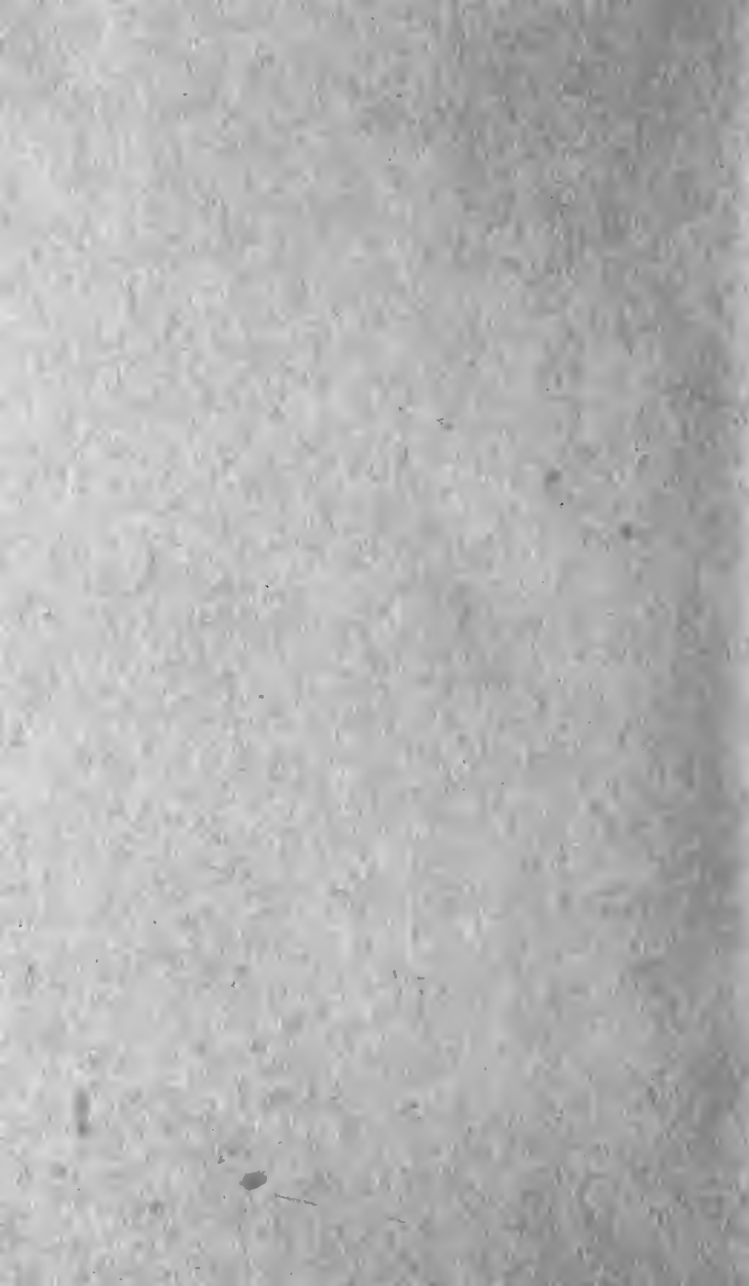
silence of Mr. Edward Stanley, a witness for the foreign, who stated that he remembered the land which is now Bridge-street, before the road was made, (part of the road being described, by Green, as the boundary,) and that when he (Stanley) first knew it, there was not any road or line of demarcation in the direction described by Green as the boundary.

On the part of the appellants, several very respectable witnesses were called, who were unanimous in their declarations that there was no known line of boundary or division between the borough and foreign. It was proved that the land in question had been occupied by borough residents, and had uniformly paid to the borough as far back as the levy books could be produced, which was for the year 1754, excepting only that Richard Holmes, during three months of his occupation of it, resided in the parish of Rushall, and for that time he was rated and paid to the foreign.

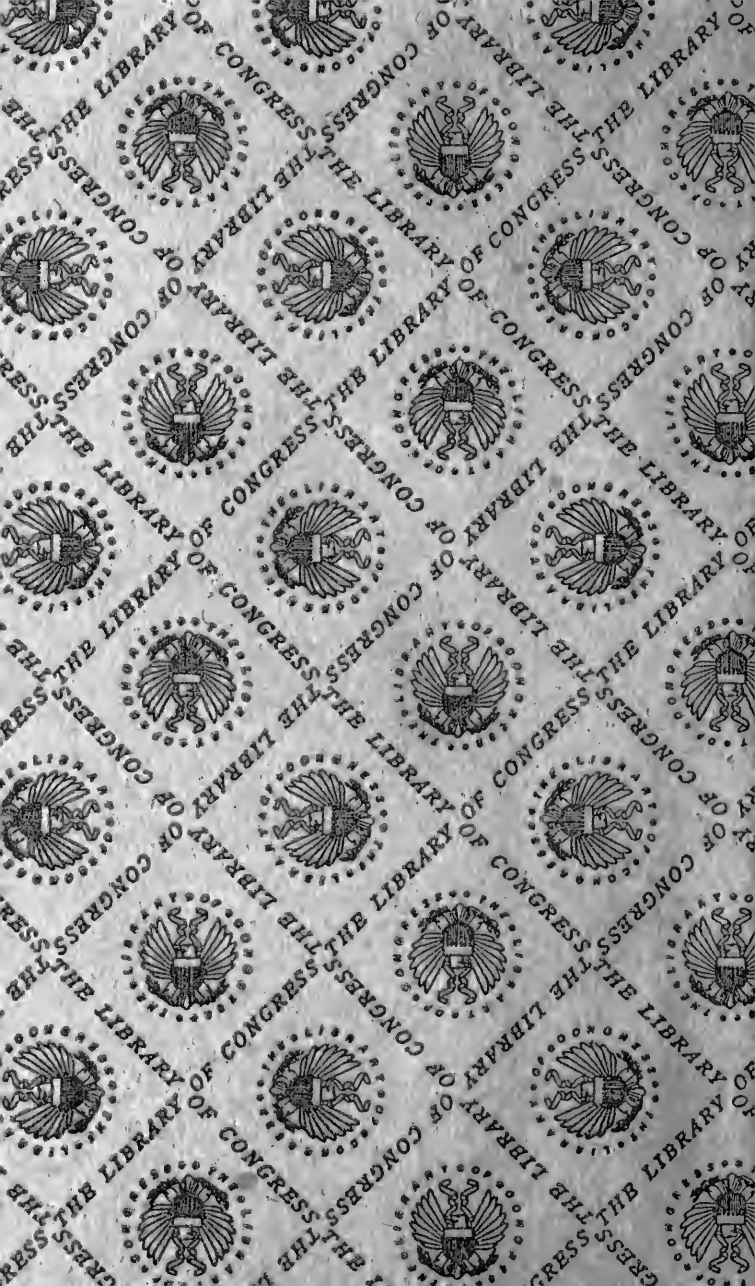
After hearing the whole of the evidence adduced, and the arguments of the counsel on both sides, the court quashed the rate, being of opinion, as the learned recorder stated, that the respondents had entirely failed in their attempt to set a line of boundary between the borough and foreign; and although the court considered that the land in question was proved to be locally situated within the foreign, yet, as they considered the custom or practice which had been acted upon beyond living memory of persons paying

for whatever they occupied to the township in which they resided, to have been the agreement or condition made on the division of the parish, under the 13th and 14th of Charles 2nd, the court held that the parties must be bound by that agreement, or revert to the provisions of the 43rd Elizabeth, and on these grounds the rate was quashed.

The foregoing rate, being quashed, subject to a case stated and having been argued in the court of King's Bench, the 23rd of June, 1813, and the order of Sessions reversed, which has determined the custom of rating resident occupiers illegal, as the decision goes no further than determining the custom to be bad, consequently the locality of lands in the parish to either township is yet to be proved.—As soon as the case and arguments upon it, together with Lord Ellenborough's decision, can be obtained from the Term Reports, and also the decisions upon sixty-three other appeals yet to be tried, are finished, the whole will be accurately published.







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